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# **Douluo Dalu**

**V05 – Star Dou Forest**

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**Tang Jia San Shao**

# 029 – Unrivalled Dragon Serpent

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## Part 1

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Oscar somewhat couldn't help himself,

"How can you prove you were first to hunt it? When we discovered it, we could not see a trace of you."

The old woman smiled faintly, saying:

"Young man, no need to worry. Take a look at this Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent's flank, there are two bruises. They are injuries caused by my walking stick, furthermore under the wings. Only carelessness let this slippery little fellow escape. This granddaughter just reached thirtieth rank and needs this spirit ring. You also saw that she has inherited my Tool Spirit Serpent Cane. High level serpent type spirits are even more suitable for her."

Zhao Wuji lowered his head to look at the Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent in his hand. Sure enough like the old woman said, there were indeed those kinds of bruises. But if thinking to to have Zhao Wuji give up with only something like this, that was a fantasy story.

Listening Zhao Wuji smiled coldly,

"Senior, I have not yet consulted for your name?"

The old woman said:

"How embarrassing, this old woman is Chao Tian-Xiang<sup>[1]</sup>. Ignorant Spirit Master realm friends show respect, giving me the name Serpent Grandmother<sup>[2]</sup>. My husband is Meng Shu<sup>[3]</sup>, known as the Dragon Duke<sup>[4]</sup>. This time coming to Star Dou Great Forest is in order to give our granddaughter a suitable third spirit ring. I see by the age of these children at your side that they are not too likely to be able to absorb a thousand year spirit ring. Even if the Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent's spirit ring is a bit mild, it still isn't one that can be absorbed by you."

To Chao Tian-Xiang's eyes, among these children before her, the oldest Dai Mubai still must be a bit younger than her granddaughter, and she also had confidence in her granddaughter's strength, fundamentally unable to believe that these children before them were able to reach thirtieth rank before her granddaughter.

Hearing the old woman's introduction, Zhao Wuji was startled. Restraining Oscar at his side wanting to speak up, in a low voice he said:

"Could you be the Unrivalled Dragon Serpent's<sup>[5]</sup> senior Serpent Grandmother?"

Chao Tian-Xiang smiled calmly,

"How embarrassing, just so. I have not yet consulted for Spirit Sage's name?"

The expression on Zhao Wuji's face changed slightly, he had heard of the name Unrivalled Dragon Serpent before. This husband and wife had started out long ago with strength out of the ordinary, especially the Dragon Duke Meng Shu. When he heard of him, that Dragon Duke was already at the Spirit Sage level. Even if he had by now already reached the Spirit Douluo realm he would still not feel surprised.

The Dragon Duke's spirit was a Dragon Headed Cane,<sup>[6]</sup> with Serpent Grandmother's Serpent Headed Cane<sup>[7]</sup> they brought out the best in each other, the husband and wife pair had an extremely overpowering spirit harmonization ability. Without Title Douluo strength it would be difficult to resist.

Zhao Wuji was only a Spirit Sage. Even if this Serpent Grandmother before him looked a bit weaker than him, it could be that the Dragon Duke would appear. A Dragon Duke was not something he could handle.

The Unrivalled Dragon Serpent relationship was superb, the husband and wife never separated. Serpent Grandmother being here, presumably meant Dragon Duke would also not be far away.

Zhao Wuji did not fail to consider killing this grandparent and grandchild to silence them, but while killing the younger was easy, wanting to kill Serpent Grandmother Chao Tian-Xiang certainly wouldn't be easy.

Although he was one spirit ring stronger than her, if Chao Tian-Xiang insisted on fleeing, he basically would not have the chance to keep her; after all, Zhao Wuji was a physical strength type Spirit Master, not at all an expert in speed.

But if he let Serpent Grandmother escape, then, waiting for him was the Unrivalled Dragon Serpent's inexhaustible hunt to kill.

"I am the humble Zhao Wuji."

Immediately, the expression on Zhao Wuji's face softened somewhat, announcing his name.

Chao Tian-Xiang's expression also changed slightly,

"No wonder, I said how could one randomly come across such a young Spirit Sage. It was the formerly so famous in the Spirit Master realm Motionless Bright King."

Zhao Wuji with a somewhat awkward smile thought in his heart, this renown of his in the Spirit Master Realm, probably only was infamy.

Zhao Wuji smiling said:

"You flatter me, in those days I was still considered notorious. However for these years living in seclusion, at an academy teaching students, this time I've brought these children to Star Dou Great Forest. One reason is for one of them to gain a spirit ring, another is also bringing them out to see the world. I did not expect that we would come across senior."

Chao Tian-Xiang also had not expected to be entangled with Zhao Wuji, and directly broached the subject:

"I am a bit older than you. I trust being a bit older, I can call you brother Zhao<sup>[8]</sup>. Brother Zhao, this thousand year Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent is extremely important to my granddaughter, she just now

reached thirtieth rank, and required something that suits her spirit. This Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent was also previously first discovered by us. Moreover with its injuries, only because of carelessness, let it unexpectedly escape, is it possible to ask bother Zhao to make this easy, letting this spirit beast remain with us. This old woman will definitely engrave this situation in her heart, to reciprocate in the future.”

In his heart Zhao Wuji secretly laughed grimly, ‘thinking to make me give up on a thousand year spirit beast with some words. Even if you Unrivalled Dragon Serpent are difficult to deal with, I’m afraid it still can’t be that easy. Let alone when Dragon Duke still isn’t here.’

Chao Tian-Xiang wanted to immediately have back the Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent in Zhao Wuji’s hand, and Zhao Wuji also wanted to immediately settle the issue. He couldn’t want to wait until Dragon Duke arrived, at that time, the situation would not be something he was capable of controlling.

“Elder sister Chao, I’m afraid this matter isn’t so easily handled, ah!”

Zhao Wuji showed an embarrassed expression.

The young lady at Chao Tian-Xiang’s side couldn’t help but speak up,

“What ‘not so easily handled’, this thousand year Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent was clearly found by us first. If not for us already injuring it, could you have done it so easily? Give it to us at once, otherwise we’ll be blunt with you.”

While speaking, she already raised the Snake Head Cane in her hand.

Chao Tian-Xiang simultaneously wrinkled her brows, staring fixedly at Zhao Wuji and saying.

“Brother Zhao, then explain why you don’t want to return this Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent to us grandparent and grandchild?”

Zhao Wuji smiled slightly, saying:

“Elder sister Chao, your words are mistaken, within this Star Dou

Great Forest, no spirit beasts are things with owners. Perhaps this thousand year Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent was found by you first, and moreover injured. But we were nevertheless last to catch it. You insist on saying it is your thing, this I'm afraid isn't too fair. Although it is comparatively suitable to your grandchild, at the same time it is also very suitable to my student. This kind of relatively mild spirit beast is a great help to the spirit of this student of mine."

Chao Tian-Xiang stared blankly a moment,

"You are saying, of these students, one has already attained thirtieth ranked Spirit Master?"

Zhao Wuji nodded.

Chao Tian-Xiang in her heart was alarmed, of these young boys and girls before her it would seem the oldest was still only fifteen or sixteen years old, and the majority still appeared twelve or thirteen years old. If saying someone among them had already reached thirtieth rank, then wouldn't it be saying they were even more innately talented than her granddaughter?

Thinking of this, Chao Tian-Xiang's face revealed an expression not daring to be confident, gaze directly falling on the one appearing to be oldest, the appearance brave and extraordinary Evil Eye White Tiger Dai Mubai.

Zhao Wuji said with a smile:

"If senior doesn't believe it, how about this, I will have these children also reveal their spirits to let senior have a look. Shrek minions, use your spirits, brighten your spirit rings to show this senior Serpent Grandmother."

At once under Zhao Wuji's order, everyone released their spirit.

Among them, after Ning Rongrong, Oscar and Tang San's spirits released, only spirit rings appeared over their bodies, their spirits were not something that could be seen by others.

Ning Rongrong's Seven Treasures Glazed Tile Pagoda naturally had a way of hiding. Tang San did not want to let his Blue Silver Grass

appear, but could directly let it crawl along the ground. As for Oscar's Sausage, without spirit incantations it would not casually appear.

And because the other four had Beast Spirits, they all revealed their strength at once, simultaneously completing Spirit Body Enhancement.

Immediately, appearing before Serpent Grandmother was the shimmering radiance of all the seven young boys and girls spirit rings, each one had two signifying hundred year yellow spirit rings, Dai Mubai even had one more purple thousand year spirit ring.

This sight, could indeed shock Serpent Grandmother Chao Tian-Xiang's heart.

'How is this possible?' This was Chao Tian-Xiang's first thought.

Before her these varying between twelve to fifteen year old children, unexpectedly all already possessed Spirit Grandmaster level or more, that looking like oldest, unexpectedly already possessed three spirit rings. And also, each of their spirit rings quality was so good, not a single ten year spirit ring appeared.

What did this mean? If saying that there was a child with stronger gifts than her granddaughter, perhaps Chao Tian-Xiang could still accept it. But right now the strength these children displayed, judging by their age, unexpectedly each exceeded her granddaughter. One might say that these seven young boys and girls, one had to describe them as genius talents, but, how could this many geniuses appear at once?

Seeing the astonished look in Chao Tian-Xiang's eyes, Zhao Wuji couldn't help but secretly feel a burst of pleasure in his heart. On his face appeared a smiling tiger kind of smile,

"Senior, do you see these students of mine?"

Chao Tian-Xiang drew in a deep breath, with difficulty calming her rushing heart, with a tight lipped smile saying:

"Of course. Worthy of being called the Motionless Bright King's

disciples, as expected they are heroic youngsters, ah! I do not know which of these children in the end reached thirtieth rank?”

Zhao Wuji clapped Oscar at his side,

“It’s this kid, he just now reached thirtieth rank. There is nothing to be done, I also have a hard life and can only bring them here.”

Chao Tian-Xiang looked towards Oscar, the expression on her face already appearing more and more unsightly. She was very clear on what a good spirit ring meant to a Spirit Master about to advance. Right now with the thousand year Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent in other peoples’ hands, if she wanted to let before her this Zhao Wuji spit it out, it could not be such an easy matter.

She had heard of long ago heard of this fellow’s infamy. If it was not the Unrivalled Dragon Serpent subduing him, perhaps this youngster would directly kill this grandparent and grandchild pair.

But, Chao Tian-Xiang clearly was not willing to give up. Eyes turning, already carefully calculating, one hand lightly stroking the hair on her head. Chao Tian-Xiang’s face revealed a smiling expression,

“Brother Zhao, in the present kind of circumstances, I see we both somewhat hate to part with this Thousand Year Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent. So it would be better to do it like this: we handle it according to the Spirit Master realm’s established customs, letting these two children decide on their own who this spirit ring belongs to. What do you think?”

“Oh? Spirit Master realm’s established customs? Please explain it clearly, senior.”

Zhao Wuji was not affected. He had never before considered himself a person of the Spirit Master realm and behaved only according to his own preferences, otherwise he would not have landed his infamy.

Chao Tian-Xiang said:

“It’s very simple, since they both need this spirit ring, and in the course of capturing this Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent, both sides also used strength. Since right now everyone is unwilling to give up their



claim, then, we'll use strength to decide who this Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent belongs to. Isn't that most suitable? If this disciple of yours prevails over my granddaughter, this old woman will say nothing further, and we will leave immediately. And conversely, we would ask brother Zhao to give over this thousand year Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent."

Zhao Wuji spread both hands, assuming a helpless appearance,

"I'm sorry. Big sister Chao, I fear I'm unable to go along with your wishes."

Chao Tian-Xiang's expression changed, slightly angrily saying:

"Zhao Wuji, I already conceded, what do you still want? Bullying me when my old fellow isn't present? Humph!"

Zhao Wuji said with an apologetic smile:

"No, of course not, it's like this, this disciple of mine isn't a Battle Spirit Master, he is only an auxiliary system Spirit Master, that's all. Even more a food system Spirit Master. How could he compete against your granddaughter?"

## **Part 2**

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Hearing Zhao Wuji's words, Chao Tian-Xiang was shocked once again,

"What did you say? He is a food system Spirit Master?"

The words 'food system Spirit Master' made her immediately see Oscar in a new light.

Just like what Shrek Academy's dean Flender said, as a food system Spirit Master, and with innate full spirit power, Oscar absolutely was a genius among geniuses. Perhaps in the entire Continent since the beginning of history, one still would not find a food system Spirit Master with cultivation faster than his.

Chao Tian-Xiang looked toward Oscar with a pleasant countenance,

“Young man, are you really a food system Spirit Master? From which school are you?”

Oscar shook his head, saying:

“I am not part of a school. The dean said that my spirit just became like this due to variation.”

Genius food system Spirit Master, without background, variation spirit, these several bits summed together made Chao Tian-Xiang’s heart tighten up. If her school was able to unearth an outstanding food system Spirit Master like this, then, in the future having him assist her granddaughter, wouldn’t it be too perfect?

However, without waiting for Chao Tian-Xiang to try to recruit him, another voice suddenly interjected.

“Teacher Zhao, it would be better to let me substitute for little Ao in this. I’m twenty ninth ranked, so it should not be considered taking unfair advantage.”

The speaker was Tang San.

Tang San had already observed the Serpent Grandmother grandparent and granddaughter pair for quite a while, and this delay clearly was not a very good course. And he had also from listening to the dialogue between Serpent Grandmother and Zhao Wuji heard that the other side still had an even more difficult to handle person who had not yet arrived. Just in case that Dragon Duke also arrived here, perhaps words would no longer be on their side. Furthermore, he and Oscar were roommates. This way of fighting to obtain the spirit ring was also proposed by the other side, Tang San was very confident in his strength, and although Serpent Grandmother’s daughter’s spirit power was one step higher than his, Tang San did not believe the other side was capable of defeating him.

While speaking, Tang San already stepped forward to Oscar’s side.

Twenty ninth ranked. Serpent Grandmother’s heart abruptly contracted at once, secretly saying in her heart, ‘who are these children Zhao Wuji found, how is one after another so outstanding?’ This looked even younger, if it was at another place, he would still

appear to just have graduated from junior spirit master academy. But standing here right now, saying he already possessed twenty ninth ranked strength, this actually was.....

Zhao Wuji looked at Tang San standing forward, in his eyes couldn't help but reveal a praising light, saying towards Serpent Grandmother:

“Senior, what do you think? This disciple of mine is a Battle Spirit Master and able to satisfy the requirements of a fight, we'll leave it to him to represent Oscar to fight. If he loses, this thousand year Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent belongs to senior, and vice versa. I ask senior to make allowances.”

Serpent Grandmother slowly nodded, if her granddaughter was even unable to prevail over a Spirit Master one rank below her, then, could she still say anything?

Oscar secretly raised a thumb towards Tang San, saying in a low voice:

“Good brother.”

Tang San smiled,

“We are roommates and friends, aren't we? Be at ease, this spirit ring is definitely yours.”

While speaking, Tang San strode out, facing the young lady who had already walked out, the other people of both sides slowly drawing back, giving them enough space to fight.

“I'm called Tang San, spirit Blue Silver Grass. Twenty ninth ranked two ring Battle Spirit Grandmaster.”

The young lady coldly said:

“Meng Yiran<sup>[9]</sup>, spirit Serpent Cane. Thirtieth ranked two ring Battle Spirit Grandmaster.”

Close up, Tang San discovered that this young lady called Meng Yiran was very beautiful. She was after all already sixteen years old, her figure's development was already perfect. Compared to her, the

Academy's three girls still appeared a bit immature.

Meng Yiran's pair of big brown eyes possessed long eyelashes, her height was not much different from Tang San's, and extremely well proportioned, chest fully plump and round, slender waist turning somewhat like a snake. Although on her face was a lightly displeased and cold anger, this did not lower her charm a bit.

The breeze blew, in the forest the tree leaves rustled, sunshine giving off shadows from the uneven dancing trees. Tang San lifted his right hand, saying:

"Please."

By now the rage inside Meng Yiran's heart had already ignited into flame. Seeing her uncommon spirit ring unexpectedly run into a hiccup like this, how could she be at ease. She impatiently wanted to get rid of Tang San before her, in order to seize the thousand year Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent and absorb the spirit ring to advance.

In fact, although Dragon Duke Meng Shu also was in Star Dou Great Forest, he had previously separated from Serpent Grandmother and Meng Yiran to pursue another spirit beast, wanting to find him quickly wasn't at all easy. Otherwise, if Dragon Duke was in the immediate vicinity, how would Serpent Grandmother Chao Tian-Xiang still say something like that.

Figure flashing, Meng Yiran already quickly reached before Tang San, the skull on the Serpent Cane swinging overhead straight at Tang San.

Meng Yiran looked like she only was a slender young lady, but the way she fought certainly wasn't a girl's style. Not only imposing and extremely harsh, the spirit power within also brimmed with a tyrannical atmosphere.

Watching the Serpent Cane descend, Tang San slid his feet, using Ghost Shadow Perplexing Track to rapidly retreat. Simultaneously, the first spirit ring over his body shone.

Blue Silver Grass' first spirit ring ability, Binding, activated.

Thick blue and black Blue Silver Grass completely without warning rushed up from the ground, in a flash successfully binding around Meng Yiran trying to pursue and attack Tang San, from the sharp thorns protruding from Blue Silver Grass, paralysing poison immediately activated.

Tang San right now was only at a location three metres away from Meng Yiran, looking at Meng Yiran sturdily bound by his Blue Silver Grass. He couldn't help but reveal a faint smile,

"I think, this contest can be considered over."

Tang San was still very confident in Blue Silver Grass, if the opponent was more formidable than him, perhaps they would still have a chance to struggle free. But if an equally ranked opponent was bound by Blue Silver Grass, struggling free was practically impossible. After all, while everyone's spirit power did not differ much, Blue Silver Grass' own poison would also greatly lower people's physical strength with full body paralysis, making it even more impossible to break free.

This was also where control system Spirit Masters had the advantage over equally ranked Spirit Masters, especially under circumstances where everyone's rank wasn't high, and their actually usable spirit abilities were few. Wanting to struggle free from a control system Spirit Master's control ability became even more difficult, and possessing the two Datura Snake and Ghost Vine hundred year spirit rings Blue Silver Grass could not be so easy to escape. After all, there was nobody who possessed the kind of physical strength like Zhao Wuji.

Meng Yiran and her Serpent Head Cane were completely bound within Blue Silver Grass, but, she didn't look like she had any intention of conceding.

With a cold snort, over Meng Yiran's body the two spirit rings suddenly shone simultaneously.

Seeing the two spirit rings flare over her body, Tang San was immediately startled, one must know, that after being paralysed by Blue Silver Grass' additional poison, it was impossible to continue

mobilising spirit power, this was also an important reason for saying Blue Silver Grass' current control capability was very powerful, but if Meng Yiran was able to urge two spirit rings here, then she certainly wasn't poisoned.

At the same time as being secretly shocked, Tang San without the slightest hesitation again used Ghost Shadow Perplexing Track, lightning quick retreating backward. While retreating, he also saw a strange scene.

Meng Yiran tangled up in Blue Silver Grass twisted like her body was without bones, body suddenly going soft, unexpectedly like smeared with grease quietly sliding out from within Blue Silver Grass, the Serpent Head Cane in her hands directly smashing towards Tan San.

From the snake head at the tip of the Serpent Head Cane, a two chi<sup>[10]</sup> long tongue blade shot out, in a flash pulling close the distance to Tang San. The tongue blade flickered with a blue gleaming lustre, clearly it was highly poisonous.

Meng Yiran's two spirit abilities activated simultaneously. The first spirit ring ability, Tongue Blade<sup>[11]</sup>, and the second spirit ring ability, Serpent Body<sup>[12]</sup>. Relying on Serpent Body, she slipped out of Blue Silver Grass' wrappings, and Tongue Blade then erupted with tyrannical attacking power, immediately reversing the situation.

However, the current Meng Yiran truly seemed to be in a somewhat sorry state. Although the sharp thorns on Blue Silver Grass were unable to cause a poison effect and were even unable to penetrate her incomparably slippery snake skin, her clothes were not under the ability's effect.

Right now her clothes were already riddled with gaping tears, and through some suitably placed by holes one could even see within.

This was also why Meng Yiran immediately tried to kill Tang San after struggling free from Blue Silver Grass, by now she was already not just angry, but also embarrassed and resentful at the same time.

The spectating Dai Mubai murmured in a low voice:

“This Blue Silver Grass Undressing of Tang San’s truly is a skill. If it was used again just now, perhaps the opponent would concede immediately.”

Whether it was Dai Mubai or Ma Hongjun and Oscar, right now all eyes intently watching Meng Yiran’s ferocious appearance without blinking. It could be said Meng Yiran was an outstanding beauty, and currently the holes in her clothes she had even more of a kind of nebulous beauty, Dai Mubai and Oscar could still be considered somewhat restrained, but Ma Hongjun this Fatty was already drooling, his abundant Evil Fire bubbling up.

Seeing Blue Silver Grass unable to display its effect, Tang San couldn’t help but frown slightly. The Tongue Blade was already in front of him, the approach of the suddenly increased the two chi length was extremely unexpected, and he could not keep dodging.

Leaning his body slightly, Tang San no longer retreated. Emitting force underfoot, he was practically sticking to the Tongue Blade as he reversed direction rushing forward, simultaneously his left hand using Controlling Crane strength to pull, right hand using Capturing Dragon strength to smash, his goal was precisely the underside of the Serpent Head Cane’s snake head, if this truly was a snake, then, Tang San’s target was this snake’s seventh cun<sup>[13]</sup>.

By now, Tang San already understood how Meng Yiran could be immune to the poison on his Blue Silver Grass. Because this spirit of hers in itself involved venom, she naturally had an immunity to poison, and precisely because of this, she was able to successfully escape his Binding ability.

With a muffled peng sound, the Serpent Head Cane rose slightly. Meng Yiran’s spirit power was still more tyrannical than Tang San imagined. Although the Serpent Cane was jolted, Tang San had no opportunity to attack. Meng Yiran broke off to pull back the Serpent Cane, holding the Serpent Cane in both hands with a slight shake, the Serpent Cane changed into eight long shadows simultaneously aiming towards Tang San.

For these eight shadows were hard to tell apart truth or sham, bearing a surging tyrannical spirit power, they practically covered all

the possible space where Tang San could dodge.

But at this moment, Tang San's eyes suddenly shone, deep purple light flashing electrically, precisely Purple Demon Eye.

Seeing Tang San's eyes suddenly turn purple, Meng Yiran couldn't help but be slightly startled, her hands couldn't help but slow.

The Serpent Head Cane's eight shadows could all be said to be genuine, but could also be said to all be fake, continuously changing between true or false to be able to maintain their existence.

Perhaps if it was an expert like Zhao Wuji encountering this kind of attack, they could only choose to stubbornly block without any other methods, but, before Tang San's Purple Demon Eye, that incomparably fast Serpent Head Cane slowed down, and all trajectories were clearly projected in Tang San's mind by Purple Demon Eye.

Tang San moved both hands, without the slightest hesitation simultaneously reaching forward, brimming with viscous spirit power that abruptly made the Serpent Head Cane sluggish. Immediately afterward, Tang San's right hand stretched out like a lightning fast genius pen stroke, unexpectedly grabbing hold of the Serpent Head Cane, actually holding it in place, precisely in the seven cun spot he previously struck.

Meng Yiran only felt the Serpent Cane tighten in her hands, all the imaginary shadows disappearing completely. But, Meng Yiran's attack hadn't yet finished.

That sharp blade shooting out from within the Serpent Head Cane suddenly slid strangely, directly cutting towards Tang San's right hand gripping the Cane, the thick sharp blade flickering with blue gleaming lustre, who knew, if this chopped down, then maybe.....

Meng Yiran's reaction speed was extremely fast. Practically at the same time as Tang San grabbed the Serpent Head Cane, that sharp blade already struck. Under these kinds of circumstances, even if Tang San wanted to dodge it was already a bit too late. If he released the Serpent Cane held in his hand, Meng Yiran would



inevitably drive the Serpent Cane to attack, and the target that sharp blade's attack would also immediately change to Tang San's body.

## Part 3

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What is called 'one cun longer is one cun stronger', although Tang San's Ghost Shadow Perplexing Track was subtle, under these kinds of circumstances it was still practically impossible to dodge Meng Yiran's attack.

At this, Xiao Wu watching the fight already cried out in alarm, stepping out about to rush in, but was discovered in time by Zhao Wuji and pulled back.

Zhao Wuji's expression was equally gloomy, but if their side rashly intervened in this kind of impartial competition, it would violate the game's rules. Furthermore, he believed Tang San would not be so easily defeated by the other side. Originally, this kid could rely on hidden weapons to make even him get the worst of it, currently that strongest attack method of his had not at all appeared.

Confronted by the cutting Tongue Blade, Tang San picked the simplest method to resolve it. At the same time it was also like a suicidal method.

His right hand did not let go, but he quickly raised his left hand, unexpectedly grabbing towards that Tongue Blade spit out by the Serpent Cane.

"Little San."

Xiao Wu once again cried out, she had already closed her eyes in alarm, she did not want to see the scene of Tang San's palm cut open.

But, was Tang San's palm cut? Of course not.

With a light ding sound, Tang San's left hand already firmly grasped that Tongue Blade. Currently, his two hands had both already become a sparkling and translucent jade color. Precisely Tang Sect secret lore Mysterious Jade Hand.

Mysterious Jade Hand, secret lore written down in Mysterious Heaven Treasure Record. Speaking of Tang Sect's hidden weapon experts, Mysterious Jade Hand was one of the required courses.

In Tang San's past life, apart from Tang Sect, the majority of people using hidden weapons, especially hidden weapons dipped in poison, all had to use deerskin gloves, so as not to injure their palms. If Tang Sect's disciples were also like this, then wouldn't they become a joke?

Mysterious Jade Hand, with the Mysterious Heaven Skill foundation, made the palm become tough and durable like cold jade, no kind of poison able to invade. With it, when Tang Sect disciples used hidden weapons they did not need any preparation, and even more need not worry about injuring themselves.

Of course, Mysterious Jade Hand was also limited, and when attacks exceeded its limit the palm still would be injured. Only, Tang San's current Mysterious Jade Hand limit clearly could not be reached by Meng Yiran. If substituting Serpent Grandmother Chao Tian-Xiang's Serpent Head Cane it might still be possible.

Tongue Blade in his hand, Tang San's five fingers tightened. Of his two hands one grabbing the Serpent Cane, one grabbing the Tongue Blade. Closely grasping Meng Yiran's Serpent Head Cane near the top in his hand, the two people each held one end of the Serpent Cane, immediately deadlocked.

The Tongue Blade could be said to be the Serpent Head Cane's best feature, a lot of skill was needed to be able to use it. The Tongue Blade being held in Tang San's hand was just like copper cast in iron: Meng Yiran several times used strength, but not only could she not wrest free the Serpent Cane, she could not even cut open Tang San's palm that suddenly had become lustrous white like jade.

Meng Yiran's strength was in this Serpent Cane, so naturally she couldn't give up her weapon. Tang San of course also understood this fact, so this Serpent Cane became the crucial location for the two peoples' fight.

Practically without the slightest hesitation, the two people

simultaneously used their spirit power to attack the other side through the Serpent Cane.

Tang San's spirit power was blue, Meng Yiran's spirit power was gray, the two kinds of differently colored light simultaneously displayed on the Serpent Cane, abruptly erupting in a tyrannical collision.

Right now, no spirit abilities were of use, and the two's spirit power was not much different. Confronting the other side attacking with spirit power was dangerous, already painful without advancing spirit power to attack the opponent.<sup>[14]</sup>

Tang San could of course unleash his hidden weapons, but he did not think to do so. If he confronted an opponent with similar strength and did not win with spirit and fighting skills, then why had he cultivated for so many years. Even though Blue Silver Grass Spirit's control capability was restrained by the opponent, Tang San still had to prove that he was stronger than his opponent.

Thus, this fight between Tang San and Meng Yiran, at once became a battle of comparing spirit power.

Meng Yiran's spirit power was fierce and tyrannical, and adding to the fury in her heart, on entering a deadlock with Tang San, immediately attacked like beating waves.

Tang San's Mysterious Heaven Skill was a method of the core family in the original sect, its traits were tough flexibility and unending growth, Tang San knew the opponent's spirit power was higher than his, therefore as meng Yiran was just about to unleash her attack, he did not counterattack, but withdrew his spirit power to the third of the Serpent Cane on his side, tenaciously digging in, with a 'however you attack, I will not move from the high ground' notion.

Seeing the situation of Tang San and Meng Yiran in the end compete with spirit power, Serpent Grandmother Chao Tian-Xiang and Zhao Wuji were both somewhat nervous. They understood that competing with spirit power was a kind of unusually dangerous method. With one mistake, it was possible to inflict heavy injuries. Subconsciously, the two both slowly approached the battlefield. When a problem

appeared, they would immediately act to assist.

One minute and one second passed, whether it was Tang San or Meng Yiran, on their foreheads both were wet with perspiration. The two both already used their full strength.

Tang San's advantage was Mysterious Heaven Skill's toughness and unending growth, in this respect its fast recovery speed, but Meng Yiran's advantage was having spirit power higher than Tang San, if the two both maintained equal guard, then, it was very possible to result in both sides suffering.

But, Meng Yiran was too shortsighted, in the initial rush of spirit power she attacked too wildly, to the extent that her spirit power consumption was greater than that of the passively defending Tang San.

On the surface, her grey spirit power occupied two thirds of the Serpent Cane's area, but in fact, regarding spirit power she consumed even more.

As time passed, and as the consumption lengthened, Tang San's counterattack gradually began. Blue spirit power gradually increased its hold on the Serpent Cane, and the strength ratio between the two gradually tilted.

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## Notes

1. (朝天香) Alternatively Zhao Tian-Xiang. "Dynasty Sky Fragrance".
2. (蛇婆)
3. (孟蜀)
4. (龙公)
5. (盖世龙蛇)
6. (龙头股拐杖)
7. (蛇头拐杖)

8. She uses the suffix lao di (老弟), which literally translates as “old [younger] brother”, and is an affectionate suffix for a somewhat younger adult man. English doesn’t have a good equivalent to my knowledge, and “laodi” is no easier to keep track of than “Wuji”, so I’ll go with “brother”.
9. (孟依然) “Meng As Before”
10. 2尺 =  $\frac{2}{3}$  m
11. (舌刃) Or “Tongue Edge”.
12. (蛇身)
13. Refers to a Chinese idiomatic expression for “weak point”, which originates from a saying that a snake is most vulnerable seven cun from its head - supposedly because that’s where its heart is.
14. This sentence is only so much gibberish to me, unless I assume typos. Let me know if you have a better translation (面对对方狂风暴雨般地魂力冲击。已经腾不出手来再进行其他方式的干扰对手。)

# 030 – Oscar’s Third Spirit Ring

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## Part 1

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‘No, I can’t lose.’ Meng Yiran clenched her teeth and forcefully braced herself, watching Tang San’s spirit power come closer step by step, whatever was said she was still reluctant to give up. Once she lost, the thousand year Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent would belong to the other side.

From childhood until now, growing up she had always been spoiled by Dragon Duke and Serpent Grandmother, anything she wanted she had always gotten. Regarding the Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent, she was even more determined to win, even though she was gradually losing the advantage, she could still not agree to give up, continuously pressing her spirit power.

Meng Yiran’s perseverance secretly shocked Tang San. His Mysterious Heaven Skill’s recovery speed was clearly faster than anything in this world, by now he already held the victory, but Meng Yiran was still this stubbornly persistent.

A spirit power contest was like an internal strength contest, and Tang San thoroughly understood the consequences. If one party’s spirit power was exhausted, then the injuries suffered by the exhausted side were inevitably huge and irrevocable. It would at least cause serious injuries, with most of the whole body’s muscle and arteries breaking, if unlucky, even death. He and Meng Yiran did not share any profound hatred, from a certain point of view, he was even somewhat sympathetic to her. He did not want to injure the opponent, but having reached this moment, he already did not want to release and the other side was not able to release.

Serpent Grandmother Chao Tian-Xiang sighed, saying to Zhao Wuji:

“Forget about it, consider it our loss. Shall you and me act together?”

With Zhao Wuji on the side glaring like a tiger watching his prey, Chao Tian-Xiang naturally did not dare recklessly rush into action, right now in order to save her granddaughter she could only do it like this. After all, although the spirit ring was good, her granddaughter's life was even more important.

Zhao Wuji of course cheerfully acted, immediately nodding agreement. At once, these two respectively possessing Spirit Sage and Spirit Emperor strength powers simultaneously moved out, reaching behind Tang San and Meng Yiran respectively, simultaneously using their spirit power.

“Let go.”

Zhao Wuji shouted in a deep voice. Thick spirit power poured into Tang San. Naturally Tang San had heard his and Chao Tian-Xiang's dialogue, under the protection of Zhao Wuji's spirit power he immediately released both hands, sending him back several steps.

On the other side, Chao Tian-Xiang also used her spirit power to protect Meng Yiran, moreover grabbing her body to keep her from continuing to attack.

Meng Yiran's complexion was pale, and with retching sounds she belched up a mouthful of blood, listlessly collapsing to sit on the spot.

Previously she was at a disadvantage, continuously bracing to resist being forced back by Tang San's spirit power. Without the attack, her agitated capacity dissipated like discharging air from a ball, unable to keep from immediately sitting on the ground. Under Serpent Grandmother's assistance she immediately entered a cultivation state to heal.

Oscar swiftly moved up to Tang San's side. Handing over a long since prepared Recovery Sausage in his hand, with a wink saying:

“Brother, eat quickly. If big brother has success in the future, he will definitely never forget you.”

Tang San tiredly said:

“To one’s own, what is there to say.”

Immediately taking and eating the fresh sausage, without letting Zhao Wuji help him like Serpent Grandmother Chao Tian-Xiang helped Meng Yiran, he walked alone to sit and cultivate by himself. With the aid of Oscar’s fresh sausage, his recovery speed would not be too slow. Zhao Wuji was the Shrek Academy side’s only power. His strength still had to be maintained as much as possible, who knew whether that Dragon Duke would suddenly appear?

Zhao Wuji appeared very satisfied that Tang San refused his help, watching him walk aside he couldn’t help but reveal a smile.

Xiao Wu immediately stood next to where Tang San began cultivating to recover spirit power, Dai Mubai, Ning Rongrong, Zhu Zhuqing and Ma Hongjun also went over one after another, crowding around protectively with Tang San in the middle. Tang San defeating Meng Yiran for the sake of Oscar’s strength, somewhat moved them all. The distance between each other also appeared to pull a bit closer.

Zhao Wuji wore a smile as he looked towards Serpent Grandmother, “Big sister Chao, what do you say?”

Serpent Grandmother calmly said:

“If you agree to a bet you must accept your loss, a loss is a loss. The thousand year Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent is yours. This old woman will remember this affair today.”

Zhao Wuji acting like he was unable to make sense of Chao Tian-Xiang’s threats, turned his head towards Oscar with a meaningful expression,

“Stinking brat, you still haven’t set to it.”

Oscar was overjoyed, having waited for this quarter of an hour was already waiting too long, with a hurried stride coming before Zhao Wuji, taking the short blade Zhao Wuji handed over. Without any trace of politeness he pierced the Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent’s vital point.



With Zhao Wuji's spirit power to hold it down, although the Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent struggled violently after being pierced in the vital point, how could it struggle free. Vitality quickly draining away, in a moment of it was motionless.

Zhao Wuji checked that the Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent truly was without any life breath, then just tossed it aside.

Oscar sat down directly at the Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent's side, lifting his hand to summon his big fresh sausage, under the shroud of mild pink light, he pulled the Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent's spirit ring to enter his torso, starting to absorb the third spirit ring of his life.

Zhao Wuji did not relax at all just because Oscar started absorbing the Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent's spirit ring, his gaze continuously watched Chao Tian-Xiang attentively. Although previously saying it was a bet, who could still be certain that this Serpent Grandmother would not suddenly renege on her word and launch an attack?

Although the Unrivalled Dragon Serpent's renown wasn't small, it still wasn't particularly righteous. Even if it was a bit better than Zhao Wuji this Motionless Bright King, it was hardly by much.

Chao Tian-Xiang did not at any different, only silently assisting her granddaughter's healing. As Zhao Wuji watched her attentively, she also equally vigilantly watched Zhao Wuji, the two silently confronting each other produced a tension between them.

Not long after, Chao Tian-Xiang stopped pressing her hands on Meng Yiran, pulling her granddaughter from the ground.

Although Meng Yiran's complexion was still pale, her mind was apparently already a bit better, resolutely opening her eyes to look at the sitting distantly and cultivating Tang San and Oscar absorbing the thousand year Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent's spirit ring, again raising her head to look at her grandma,

"Grandma, you must stand in for me to do it, ah!"

Chao Tian-Xiang's brows wrinkled,

"Come now, we already lost. Once we find your grandpa we will

Speak again.”

Her gaze shifted to Zhao Wuji,

“Motionless Bright King, blue hills never change, green water always flows<sup>[1]</sup>, I’m sure we will meet again some day.”

She deliberately stressed the two words ‘some day’, a cold light in her eyes, she obviously had not kept any goodwill. Because Zhao Wuji might move, she did not even dare help her granddaughter recover to her best condition, only suppressing the injuries, after first leaving here it would still not be too late to conduct healing. Serpent Grandmother had plentiful experience, she would not give Zhao Wuji any opportunity to act.

Done speaking these words, Chao Tian-Xiang like this brought her granddaughter to leap away, without entering the forest depths disappearing out of sight.

Seeing the Serpent Grandmother grandparent and grandchild pair leave, Zhao Wuji also secretly let out a breath, in the end, from start to finish the Dragon Duke had not appeared.

At present the Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent had already been obtained, even if this husband and wife pair wanted revenge, they would still first have to consider whether it was worth it.

Once Oscar had finished absorbing the spirit ring, leaving this place even a bit earlier would be good.

If the situation changed for the worse and they again encountered this Unrivalled Dragon Serpent family, it would not go so well.

By now the color of the sky was already gradually darkening, within Star Dou Great Forest the air was moist, the rich plant fragrance making peoples’ whole body relax, if there were no longer spirit beasts here, then perhaps this might become a paradise for people.

Dai Mubai’s group of five waited at Tang San’s side, Zhao Wuji stood beside Oscar, as protectors of the two.

After probably half a double hour, the first to awaken was contrary

to expectations Oscar absorbing the spirit ring.

Although Tang San ate the recovery sausage Oscar gave him, he did not like Meng Yiran have the assistance of Serpent Grandmother, instead having a bit longer cultivation time.

With a long breath, Oscar slowly opened his eyes, in a split second, a change suddenly appeared in that pink light over his body, becoming a beautiful pink<sup>[2]</sup>, the entire person bathed in this layer of pink light.

Three spirit rings rose from below, besides the original two yellow spirit rings, another bright purple spirit ring manifested itself strongly. Oscar had finally broken through the Spirit Grandmaster phase, entering the Spirit Elder realm.

Thirty first ranked Spirit Elder food system Spirit Master Oscar.

“Congratulations, little Ao.”

Zhao Wuji said to him with smile.

After obtaining the third spirit ring, Oscar’s entire body had subtly changed, his stature seemed to have become a bit larger, the entire person looking even more vigorous, but the biggest change was that pair of peach blossom eyes of his. In his eyes unexpectedly flickered seven colored light, resembling the energy previously released by the Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent as it threatened everyone.

Dai Mubai laughed straightforwardly,

“Little Ao, you are the second of us to break through thirtieth rank. Congratulations, congratulations. Quickly let us have a look at what your third spirit ring ability is.”

Oscar was obviously greatly excited on receiving the third spirit ring, however, hearing Dai Mubai mention his third spirit ring ability, his smile didn’t quite appear, embarrassed saying:

“Let it be, we’ll speak again when we’ve returned.”

Ma Hongjun said:

“Little Ao, what are you afraid of. Don’t tell me you’re still afraid we’ll make fun of you? Your third spirit ability’s spirit incantation couldn’t be even funnier than your previous two. Your brothers made a lot of effort for you, hurry up and show us the result.”

Oscar helplessly nodded,

“Only, promise, you definitely can’t laugh when you hear my spirit incantation.”

Everyone nodded simultaneously, on their faces already somewhat smiling expressions.

Oscar raised his right hand, eventually reciting his third spirit incantation,

“I your father have a mushroom sausage.”

Pu——, hearing his words, practically everyone simultaneously burst out laughing, besides Tang San who was still cultivating, even Zhao Wuji burst into loud laughter.

Oscar glared at everyone,

“Didn’t you promise not to laugh?”

These words instead had the opposite effect, everyone’s laughter became even more difficult to endure.

## **Part 2**

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A strange sausage appeared in Oscar’s right palm. The sausage looked similar to his first spirit ring ability Recovery Sausage. At least the bulk looked the same. However, the top of the sausage sprouted outwards, creating an umbrella shaped mushroom head, also a bit similar to the crest of the phoenix tail crest serpent. This was possibly the origin of this mushroom-sausage.

Zhao Wuji was after all the teacher. The first to stop laughing, he looked at Oscar’s dismayed face:

“Little Ao, tell everyone what your mushroom sausage does, it’s a

thousand year spirit ring ability, its effect couldn't be too lacking."

Oscar snorted with indignation and said,

"You guys laugh on. From now on, other than Tang San, I won't give my mushroom sausages to anyone. Hmph."

As he spoke, he lifted the mushroom sausage in his hand, his facial expression vivid. Then said loudly in an arrogant tone:

"Mushroom sausage, third spirit ring ability. Effect: Soaring."

All laughter suddenly ceased, everyone looking stunned at Oscar. And all of this was because of one simple word. Soaring.

Even if it was Ning Rongrong whose spirit possessed the reputation of the Continent's number one Auxiliary Spirit, now already looked wide eyed at Oscar.

When Ning Rongrong first came to the Academy, the person she looked down on the most was Oscar, even though Oscar was the most handsome of everyone. She always believed, Oscar without attack power and a mere sausage spirit had no future in front of him. Naturally, she treated him with scorn, so Oscar's love proposal to her was thought of as just a joke.

But after she denied Oscar, after dean Flender vindicated Oscar, and after she tasted Oscar's spirit sausage personally, Ning Rongrong's impression of Oscar began to change.

A food system Spirit Master with innate full spirit power, reaching the Spirit Elder realm at the age of 14, obtaining a third spirit ring. This made even Ning Rongrong who always thought highly of herself to feel inferior. To Oscar, she already had a whole new awareness. A food system Spirit Master that breaks through thirtieth rank was already rare enough, let alone one so young. If he could be brought to join the Seven Treasures Glazed Tile School, the help he would bring to the clan would no doubt be huge. 'If myself and him....' Every time Ning Rongrong thought this, she would completely reject the notion. After all, deep in her heart she still couldn't truly accept Oscar's extremely vulgar spirit incantation.

But now, when she suddenly heard Oscar say that his third spirit ring ability was auxiliary Soaring, Ning Rongrong felt like her brain had been deep fried.

Among auxiliary system Spirit Masters, it wasn't that no one had the ability to make others fly.

But that was extremely rare even among other support type spirit masters. Most importantly, the supporting ability flying appeared on at least the 6th spirit ability for every auxiliary system Spirit Master Ning Rongrong knew of.

But this was only Oscar's third spirit ability! What did this mean? This meant that his future potential could only be described as unlimited.

Soaring, how could it be Soaring?

Ning Rongrong's look towards Oscar was filled with complex emotions. Now, she finally realized. Among the students of Shrek Academy, she might really be the worst one.

"\*Cough\*, \*cough\*"

Oscar, looking at everyone's mouths wide open felt a secret pleasure. Coughing twice, he said:

"En, I still haven't finished explaining. My third spirit ring ability is: Soaring, for one minute."

"Fucking——"

Other than Zhao Wuji who restrained himself, everyone else started cursing openly.

Dai Mubai growled:

"Little Ao. Do you want us to loosen up your skin? Talking with such a big pause."

Oscar laughed slightly and said:

"Boss Dai, are you threatening me? What about Soaring for one minute huh? That's still a rare ability!"

Dai Mubai smirked, saying:

“More like rare trash ability. What about flying one minute? You can’t even fly over a slightly wide river or cliff.”

The rainbow glow of Oscar’s peach blossom eyes seemed to grow even more distinct.

“Is it really like that? What if this Soaring for one minute, was according to the speed of the Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent?”

“What?”

Dai Mubai said astounded.

“You’re saying. That after anyone eats your mushroom sausage, they can fly at the speed of a Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent for one minute? Is that even possible?”

Oscar arrogantly said: “How is that not possible? My third spirit ring comes from the Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent, so my spirit ability is naturally related to it. My feeling won’t be wrong. If you want to eat my mushroom sausages in the future, you better start begging me for it.”

Ning Rongrong who had just let out a breath was once again shocked by Oscar’s words. Even if was only one minute, with the speed of a phoenix tail crest serpent, how far could you fly? Possibly at least two kilometres or more.

Which meant that when danger appeared, you could in just a minute escape to over two kilometres away, even disregarding the shape of the terrain.

The power of this ability is definitely not lacking compared to pure flying abilities. One has to know, the usual support flying abilities allowed only slow flying speeds.

Zhao Wuji nodded satisfied, saying: “Good thing we didn’t waste our energy for nothing. Little Ao, your third spirit ring is exceptionally good. With your current spirit power, how many of these mushroom sausages can you make?”

Oscar thought for a bit and said : “This mushroom sausage uses a lot more spirit power than the first two types. With my current condition, I can make at most ten in one sitting. Afterwards, my spirit power will be completely exhausted. It will have to replenish fully before I can make more again.”

Looking at the students, Zhao Wuji said with satisfaction. “Ten sausages is enough. As your spirit power increases, this number will increase. Among the food system spirits, your sausages, from now on, can be categorized as highest grade. Good. Everyone prepare at once. Once little San wakes up from cultivation, we will immediately leave this place and return to the Academy.”

While speaking, Zhao Wuji walked towards Tang San. Oscar has already finished absorbing his spirit ring, so he decided to let the other children first rest for a bit. He himself would protect Tang San so they can leave as fast as possible to dodge all possible trouble.

“Teacher Zhao, I’m afraid we can’t leave yet.” At that moment, the cultivating Tang San opened his eyes. While speaking, he looked at Zhao Wuji.

Zhao Wuji looked blankly, “Can’t leave? Why? Little San, Star Dou Great Forest isn’t a playground, I’m the teacher, my word is final. Our mission has been completed. We must return to the academy as quickly as possible. Or else, if any of you get hurt, how am I going to answer to Flender when we’ve returned?”

“But....”

Tang San started saying urgently, but he was interrupted by Zhao Wuji,

“No buts. Since you’re awake, everyone doesn’t need to rest anymore. Tell me when we have left Star Dou Great Forest. Before the sky darkens completely, we should set out immediately.”

“Master Zhao, can’t you wait until I finish speaking?” Tang San stood up from the ground, looking helplessly at Zhao Wuji.

Zhao Wuji’s eyes flashed, but seemed to recall something, and the cold light in his eye faded away. In the past, if anyone defied his will,



he would probably have slapped them with his giant bear paws already.

But for Tang San, he in the end didn't dare to. Tang San's hidden weapons admittedly gave him some apprehension, but more importantly, actually.....

Tang San didn't wait for Zhao Wuji to open his mouth, and hastily said:

"I need a spirit ring as well, it would be better to immediately find a spirit beast, instead of coming here again soon."

"Out of the question, didn't you hear what I said?"

Zhao Wuji said without hesitation. Suddenly, his body stiffened. Opening his eyes wide open at Tang San, he said:

"What did you just say?"

Tang San repeated what he said seriously:

"I said: I need a spirit ring as well. After the fight with Meng Yiran just now, maybe it's because of the pressure she gave me, my spirit power finally broke through thirtieth rank. Therefore, I need a spirit ring to advance. Master Zhao, is that possible?"

## **Part 3**

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Zhao Wuji stared wide eyed at Tang San.

Oscar in the process of proudly gesticulating with the mushroom sausage relaxed his grip, the mushroom sausage dropping to the ground.

Dai Mubai's Evil Eye twin pupils strangely fused into one.

The Fatty Ma Hongjun's mouth opened wide.

Zhu Zhuqing's ice chill turned into shock.

Ning Rongrong's gentle and charming face had two dimples.

Xiao Wu excitedly held on to Tang San's arm.

Each person used different actions to express their current astonishment. There was only one reason. The current Tang San, was twelve years old.

A twelve years old Spirit Grandmaster, to common Spirit Masters, was perhaps already an inconceivable existence. But to the young boys and girls present it would not feel strange at all, because each of them was one.

But, a twelve years old Spirit Elder, they had not even heard of.

Even if it was the currently most powerful, already possessing thirty seventh ranked spirit power Dai Mubai was also unable to imagine it, his at Shrek Academy recently set record was already broken by this person.

The fourteen years old Oscar became a Spirit Elder, and now, the twelve years old Tang San also entered this level.

Breaking through thirty first rank, meant reaching another phase among Spirit Masters, meant future prospects could not be measured. Obtaining the third spirit ring, one's strength would at once take a qualitative leap. This was also the reason why Ning Rongrong regarding Oscar breaking through thirtieth rank would mind it so much.

Tang San, barely twelve years old Tang San, unexpectedly also entered this level, how could everyone present not also be shocked?

The only one without such amazement was Tang San himself. Actually, when he still had not left Nuoding Academy, he was already on the twenty ninth ranked level, and maintaining this level had also already persisted for too long, longer than any of his previously cultivated ranks. Today fighting with Meng Yiran had admittedly been an opportunity, but in fact, even without this fight, Tang San still would have broken through the twenty ninth rank restrictions in a short time, entering the thirtieth ranked level.

Zhao Wuji looked gravely at Tang San,

“Tell me, how old are you this year, you must be precise to the month.”

Tang San without the slightest hesitation said:

“Twelve years and seven months.”

Zhao Wuji nodded, gaze turning towards the others,

“You all see. Especially those of you who have not reached the thirtieth rank. You all see it. Tang San and you are equally old, but he is right now about to enter another phase. This is the result of great effort. Twelve years old and seven months, I think, this record will forever be preserved as Shrek Academy’s record. Forever.”

Tang San’s batch of students very possibly was Shrek Academy’s last, and although the other several were younger than Tang San, Zhao Wuji absolutely believed there was still no one who could enter the thirtieth ranked level earlier than Tang San.

Oscar said:

“Teacher Zhao, I don’t agree with you. Tang San able to break through thirtieth rank, this can’t be the result of effort.”

Zhao Wuji gave him a glare,

“Then you tell me why this is?”

Oscar grinned, saying:

“Since we are Shrek Students, if we say that we are monsters, then, he is a monster among monsters.”

Hearing Oscar’s words, Zhao Wuji smiled, the other students also smiled. Even Zhu Zhuqing’s face wore a slight smiling expression.

“Ge, congratulations.”

Xiao Wu whispered next to Tang San’s ear, right now she still excitedly held on to Tang San’s right arm,

“But, I will overtake you as soon as possible.”

Regarding Xiao Wu's words, Tang San did not doubt them, for these several years, although each time it was Tang San who took the lead in breaking through, the ordinarily not appearing very diligent Xiao Wu would always chase after him and in a short time reach the same level. Tang San always believed that if Xiao Wu cultivated a bit seriously, her strength would certainly surpass his.

"Teacher Zhao, say, can we stay behind to look for a suitable spirit beast for me?"

Tang San probing asked.

Zhao Wuji smiled faintly,

"Of course we can, this is what you deserve. We must not only find you a spirit beast for your third spirit ring, but must also on your behalf find a spirit beast that most suits you. Apparently, this time we must extend our time in Star Dou Great Forest for a bit."

Oscar had obtained a third spirit ring, Tang San broke through twenty ninth rank to enter the thirtieth rank stage, it could be said to everyone's delight and satisfaction. After all, receiving results like this on the first day of entering Star Dou Great Forest was already sufficient to satisfy everyone. Even if in itself strength did not advance any for the others, after entering this forest their knowledge had still increased greatly. The relationship between everyone also pulled closer in this kind of danger.

Zhao Wuji did not let anyone rest there, because he feared Dragon Duke would return with Serpent Grandmother to find them, although the possibility of this was very small, he still had no choice but to guard against it. That evening, he brought the seven Shrek Students to walk about ten li<sup>[3]</sup> in one direction, and after concealing all their traces, halted like this.

Zhao Wuji's worries did not show any result. The night passed without incident. After resting for one night, everyone's energy had recovered to peak condition.

Early the next day, they continued the process of searching for Spirit Beasts. Only this time the person getting a spirit beast was Tang

San, and not Oscar.

Regarding what kind of spirit beast to pick for his third spirit ring, Grandmaster had long ago already helped Tang San plan it out well, therefore Tang San believed that finding a spirit beast for him should be even easier than finding Oscar's. After all, in Grandmaster's plan were several kinds of spirit beast, with some comparatively common. As long as the cultivation age was suitable it could become his spirit ring.

But things turned out contrary to what he expected, no less than two days passed, even though Zhao Wuji led them to seriously search, they did not find a suitable spirit beast for Tang San.

As a result of previously encountering the Serpent Grandmother Chao Tian-Xiang grandparent and grandchild pair, Zhao Wuji was somewhat wary of the consequences, adding to the danger within Star Dou Great Forest itself, making Zhao Wuji's tactics while searching for spirit beasts somewhat conservative, without deeply penetrating Star Dou Great Forest, only bringing everyone to conduct the search in the outer parts.

Even though they several times encountered thousand year spirit beasts on the way, those several kinds of spirit beasts did not suit Tang San. The remainder were all some hundred year spirit beasts.

He also couldn't blame Zhao Wuji's conservative attitude in searching for spirit beasts, after all, he was only one teacher, while encountering low level spirit beasts everyone were naturally able to handle it, but when encountering a truly formidable spirit beast, Zhao Wuji could not be certain to protect everyone. These students all were Shrek Academy's little monsters, among them several people were from even more remarkable backgrounds, Zhao Wuji did not dare take risks. If anyone became an issue, that was a fatal conclusion.

Two days time passed, even though no one regarded food supply as a problem, each day within the great forest with danger lurking on every side still strained everyone's minds, making it even easier to feel exhausted.

However, entering within Star Dou Great Forest, also precisely because of the existence of this crisis, the coordination between the students gradually became connected on a deeper level. The four Tang San, Dai Mubai, Xiao Wu and Ma Hongjun were in charge of fighting after they encountered spirit beasts. Zhu Zhuqing was responsible for advance scouting within a certain distance. Oscar and Ning Rongrong were support. Even if they were without Zhao Wuji's assistance, as long as it was not a thousand year spirit beast, they would be unable to bring any threat to this little group.

The mutual understanding was a necessary capability to possess for continuously coordinated battles, this kind of dangerous environment clearly was the best tempering. Being able to enter Shrek Academy already proved these students were outstanding, monsters and geniuses, they successfully transformed pressure into power. Adding Zhao Wuji's directions from the side, while their spirit power improvement speed did not have any change, but the imperceptible influence of fighting experience and composite strength continuously increased.

At nightfall it was finally was time to rest. They couldn't light a fire within Star Dou Great Forest: although the majority of spirit beasts feared flame, there were also a small share of spirit beasts that were exceedingly fond of fire, and among this little share of spirit beasts, on the whole were some deadly existences.

Without needing Zhao Wuji's direction, the male students were in charge of building tents, the female students were in charge of food. Of course, Oscar this fellow was an exception, immediately by Dai Mubai, Tang San and the others directed to enter the female student category.

The tents were not large, and naturally insufficient to let everyone lie down to sleep, but for everyone to sit and cultivate was nevertheless no problem. To them, at all times maintaining peak fighting condition was more important than sleeping.

Zhao Wuji as teacher, naturally took the work of night vigil.

Hurriedly eating supper, Zhao Wuji let everyone enter the tents to rest, but called Tang San before him.

“Little San, aren’t you anxious?”

Zhao Wuji looked at the youngster before him with a smiling expression.

Tang San shook his head, saying:

“Searching for spirit beasts is a matter of luck. Hurrying is no use. Teacher Zhao, you be at ease, I have patience.”

Zhao Wuji sighed lightly, saying:

“Currently this Star Dou Great Forest has also started to become desolate. Many years ago, I still remember how this was a bustling scene. At that time, even if it was around the forest, everywhere could be seen thousand year level spirit beast existences. But now spirit beasts are much fewer. I don’t know if they all go to live inside the forest, or some other reason.”

Tang San said:

“Regardless of the reason, it still is us humans who caused it. Although spirit beasts are fierce, us humans are even more fierce than them. Isn’t that so?”

Zhao Wuji stared blankly,

“Why do you say this?”

Tang San said:

“Teacher once said, even though Spirit Masters are few, one spirit master from starting cultivation to maturing as a power is only several decades, that’s all. But over these several decades, one formidable Spirit Master needs at least six or more spirit rings. In other words, has to kill six or more spirit beasts. Among these would also include hundred year and thousand year, even ten thousand year levels. Spirit beast cultivation is much more difficult compared to us humans, otherwise they would also not be divided according to age. Even though they are numerous, under this kind of sustained massacre, the spirit beasts’ quantity will only continuously decrease, especially for formidable spirit beasts, even more each killed is one

fewer. After many years, perhaps it will be difficult to see thousand year or higher existences.”

Zhao Wuji somewhat pondering said:

“Grandmaster is right. Only, which Spirit Master would think of this problem? Who doesn’t want to be able to let themselves become even more formidable? Even if Spirit Hall set restrictions, perhaps it would still be completely ineffective.”

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### Notes

1. This seems to be a line from a poem called Parting (离别) by 9th century poet Bai Juyi (白居易).
2. Originally the color was (粉色) and has now changed to (粉红色) or “pink red”.
3. 10里 = 5 km



# 031 – Forest King, Titan Giant Ape

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## Part 1

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Tang San said:

“Even more influential is aimless massacre. One Spirit Master in his life only needs nine spirit beasts at most, but, how many spirit beasts does one Spirit Master have to hunt and kill in his life? Let alone others, even us, on this journey when encountering some aggressive ten year and hundred year spirit beasts, still can’t help but act. And for those people making a living hunting spirit beasts, the numbers slaughtered are geometrically multiplied. After a long time like this, the vocation of Spirit Master will one day have no rings to use.”

Zhao Wuji said:

“Well, don’t say this. This isn’t something you and me are capable of controlling. At most we can only kill a bit fewer, that’s all. Little San, I’ve decided, if tomorrow we still can’t find you a spirit beast, we will go a bit deeper to search the inner parts of Star Dou Great Forest. There will always be a spirit ring suitable to you. Rest assured.”

Tang San smiled slightly, saying:

“Teacher Zhao, this problem has actually never worried me. However, I have all along not had the opportunity to apologize to you. That time when competing against you, you all along started off leniently, yet I.....”

Zhao Wuji laughed bitterly, shaking his hand towards Tang San,

“It’s all right, you can’t keep carrying that awkward incident, I’ve already forgotten it.”

The two looked at each other, unable to help showing smiling expressions.

At that moment, suddenly, the smiling expression in Zhao Wuji's eyes faded in a flash, one hand sharply grabbing Tang San's shoulder to pull him close, cold and severe atmosphere surging from Zhao Wuji's body, following a deep roar, he directly summoned his spirit, Vigorous Vajra Bear and in a moment finishing Body Transformation.

"Everyone leave the tents. Quickly."

Zhao Wuji roared deeply, the strong sound reaching the insides of the tents.

After several days of cooperation, the students had long ago reached a certain rapport, lightning quick making their way out of the tents.

"Teacher Zhao, why?"

Dai Mubai reached Zhao Wuji's side in one sudden big stride, puzzled asking him.

Zhao Wuji did not answer his question,

"Everyone get behind me. If in a moment something happens, you must not distract me. Leave immediately and speak again after first leaving Star Dou Great Forest. Mubai, when I'm not present, I'll leave the responsibility of protecting everyone to you."

Whether it was Dai Mubai, Tang San or the others, no one understood what had happened that unexpectedly made the always overly confident in his strength Zhao Wuji this nervous, but at this moment, they suddenly saw a strange scene.

In the direction Zhao Wuji was looking, two large trees suddenly slowly parted to either side, and an enormous silhouette noiselessly walked out.

Seeing this big animal, they all seemed to stop breathing, and everyone finally understood what was actually worrying Zhao Wuji.

This was an existence like a mountain, black fur all over its body faintly twinkling with lustre under the weak illumination of the moon and stars, even though it was four limbed, the height of its shoulders

already at least outstripped seven metres.

If it stood upright, the height might be over fifteen metres.

On the surface, this was an existence both like monkeys and a black orangutan, apart from a pair of lantern sized eyes with a yellow crystal like lustre its whole body was pitch black. At night if it didn't move, even its body would look indistinct.

This big animal's body was actually too majestic, its condition unimaginably awesome, not only was its body enormous, but all over its entire body it was covered with muscles even tougher than granite, protruding like little hills.

But such an enormous animal did not make any noise while walking, not even the sound of breathing.

Seeing it, the first to recognize it was Tang San, relying on the knowledge Grandmaster instilled in him, he practically immediately distinguished this big animal's category.

"It's actually the forest king, Titan Giant Ape<sup>[1]</sup>."

Even the always calm Tang San, right now had a somewhat shaky voice.

Titan Giant Ape appeared in any spirit beast forest, and all were absolute existences like overlords. There were no spirit beasts that dared offend it, because the result would inevitably be death. Even if it was only a hundred year Titan Giant Ape, it could still measure up against other ten thousand year level spirit beasts.

They possessed incomparable physical strength and speed. Attack and defense were practically without any flaws. But most terrifying, they could even use skills similar to spirit abilities.

No one knew what the Titan Giant Ape's true ability was, because on seeing these skills humans were already dead.

Similarly for all ten thousand year spirit beasts their actual strength was decided differently, this was in itself a question of properties. But Titan Giant Ape, among all spirit beasts, clearly stood among a

small number of types of spirit beasts at the summit of the pyramid. The terror it could produce was the nightmare of practically all Spirit Masters.

Previously an unknown number of Spirit Masters had coveted the power of the Titan Giant Ape, hoping to be able to kill it for their spirit ring. But the people with this kind of notion also strived hard in vain, completely vanishing from this world.

Among known Spirit Masters, apparently only one person had ever killed a Titan Giant Ape, and furthermore alone, that's all.

Titan Giant Ape did not only have formidable strength, but they even possessed intelligence no less than humans.

Within the forest, it was an absolute king.

Whether it was Tang San or Zhao Wuji, neither had in any way expected, that this kind forest king and spirit beast king, that even if one existed should live at the core of Star Dou Great Forest, would appear here.

"Respected forest king, we did not mean to offend, if this is your territory, we will immediately withdraw."

Zhao Wuji said in a low voice. He knew that Titan Giant Apes were capable of understanding human speech. Especially such a powerful Titan Giant Ape as this, which clearly already outstripped ten thousand years of cultivation. He really could not imagine a spirit beast more formidable than this one.

The Titan Giant Ape did not take any notice of Zhao Wuji's words, it only did one simple thing that made everyone's hearts leap into their throats. Because it took one step forward.

Even though it was only one step, with its majestic body, this step already pulled close the distance to everyone from Shrek Academy.

Zhao Wuji's brain right now worked at full speed, but at most only four words appeared, 'what can be done?'

Yes, right now what could be done? Although Zhao Wuji was

confident in his strength, he was very clear on, the terror of this Titan Giant Ape was above the Unrivalled Dragon Serpent husband and wife pair. He would prefer to confront a Title Douluo, but absolutely did not wish to confront a spirit beast king like this.

Just like what Tang San said before, Spirit Masters massacring spirit beasts made all spirit beasts regard humans with hatred. This spirit beast king clearly was no exception.

Facing it, Zhao Wuji knew that even defending himself was an issue, let alone speaking of protecting the others. But, at this moment, how could he still cower back?

Clenching his teeth, Zhao Wuji said in a low voice:

“I’ll hold it off, you immediately eat Oscar’s mushroom sausage and leave. I’m afraid I won’t last long. You must act quickly.”

Leaving behind these words, Zhao Wuji took a deep breath, over his body seven rings of light releasing a great radiance, rushing to meet the Titan Giant Ape.

The first, second, third and fifth rings of light flared simultaneously. Confronting this tyrannical opponent, the Motionless Bright King immediately used four of his spirit abilities.

The light from four spirit rings simultaneously flaring was somewhat dazzling, Motionless Bright King Body protecting him, Gravity Control with Zhao Wuji as its center completely enveloping the Titan Giant Ape, Gravity Crush mobilising in concert with Gravity Control, as much as possible restricting the Titan Giant Ape’s body. At the same time, both his palms whirled, using Vigorous Vajra Palm at full strength, tyrannical energy fluctuations suddenly releasing, Zhao Wuji took advantage of a tall tree to the side to leap high into the air, both hands whirling, not in the least sparing spirit power, throwing himself straight at the Titan Giant Ape.

“Tang San, you cover everyone’s departure, I will assist teacher Zhao.”

Dai Mubai explained, dashing forward with a loud tiger howl to the sky. He naturally also knew that the Titan Giant Ape was formidable,

therefore, he directly used not only his White Tiger Spirit, but simultaneously also in a flash started his most powerful third spirit ability, White Tiger Vajra Transformation.

Dai Mubai's body which had originally become full of power from White Tiger Body Enhancement swelled once again, the muscles themselves swelling exaggeratedly, the clothes over his body completely bursting, exposing a frightfully muscled silhouette, most strange was, on his skin appeared black horizontal stripes, and if it wasn't hairless it would be no different from tiger skin.

A pair of hands again larger, the sharp blades ejected on the surface all became bright silver, most peculiar was, all over his body he was shrouded in an intense golden light, as if he was gilded.

Blood red eyes shining with bloodthirst, all over the whole body wearing that kind of king among beasts aggressiveness.

Attack and defense abruptly upgraded, Dai Mubai at once sending out that tiger roar sprinted with full power. Zhao Wuji's goal was the top of the Titan Giant Ape's head, but Dai Mubai's goal were the forelimbs supporting the Titan Giant Ape's body.

"You go. I have to help them and can't leave."

A warm and soft yet resolute voice rose, a dazzlingly beautiful Seven Treasures Glazed Tile Pagoda rotated out from the center of Ning Rongrong's palm.

Over these days, her coordination with everyone had always conformed, without showing any errors, also without erupting into her young lady character, gradually becoming accepted by everyone.

Who couldn't acknowledge that the Seven Treasures Glazed Tile Pagoda indeed had its original position, being known as the foremost Auxiliary Spirit absolutely wasn't false.

"Seven Treasure Words, first spoken: Strength."

"Seven Treasure Words, second spoken: Speed."

Following Ning Rongrong's brief and clear voice, four lines of light simultaneously shot out, two of them falling on Zhao Wuji's body just as he was about to attack the top of the Titan Giant Ape's head.

The Seven Treasures Glazed Tile Pagoda Spirit's most powerful trait was how its amplification disregarded the foundation. Ning Rongrong's amplification effect was currently thirty percent, in other words, no matter how strong the subject was in itself, they would all have an amplification range of thirty percent. Thirty seventh ranked Dai Mubai had his strength and speed amplified by thirty percent, and seventy sixth ranked Zhao Wuji as well.

Indeed, under Ning Rongrong's Seven Treasures Glazed Tile Pagoda amplification, Zhao Wuji's speed suddenly increased, the spirit power over his two bear paws also strengthened somewhat, in a flash already having risen up over eightieth ranked spirit power attack power.

Of the altogether seven students, two already decided to stay behind, could the others truly leave? Over several days of cooperation, they had long ago already formed a good rapport.

Tang San did not even say anything, only clapped Fatty's shoulder and dashed out, his meaning very clear, 'the mission boss Dai handed over is up to you to complete'.

Tang San's goal was the same as Dai Mubai's, both were the Titan Giant Ape's forelimbs, however Dai Mubai was attacking, but Tang San was binding, Blue Silver Grass without stinting in the least rushed out frantically, going directly for the Titan Giant Ape's forelimbs, looking to as far as possible restrict its movements.

Because Tang San clearly understood that the Titan Giant Ape did not only have tyrannical attack and defense: although its body was enormous, its speed was still extremely terrifying.

Ning Rongrong fully displayed her auxiliary system Spirit Master effects, at the same time as Tang San quickly rushed out, two lines of light also attached to his body.

Seven Treasures Glazed Tile Pagoda's support was definitely a kind

of pleasure, physical strength and speed in a flash increased thirty percent, that kind of feeling was somewhat wonderful. Tang San's Blue Silver Grass immediately became even more lush, firmly twining around the Titan Giant Ape's two forelimbs, the sharp thorns on Blue Silver Grass strived even harder to sting, earnestly hoping to be able to rely on the poison to cause some harm to the Titan Giant Ape.

## Part 2

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Zhu Zhuqing's body vanished at the same time Tang San rushed out. Of course she didn't leave. Right now, she already soared to the tree that Zhao Wuji jumped off from, flying about, trying to find an opportunity to attack.

Fatty Ma Honjun muttered something unknown to himself. The two spirit rings on his body released a strong glow, his entire body engulfed in purple fire. His second spirit ability Bathing Fire Phoenix<sup>[2]</sup> was not only capable of protecting him, at the same time it could also amplify his first spirit ability Phoenix Fire Wire. A Phoenix Fire Wire as thick as an arm spitted out of his mouth, however, this fellow was very sneaky. His target was a certain area under the abdomen of the Titan Giant Ape.

Fatty of course didn't know what gender the Titan Giant Ape was. He only knew that no matter the gender, that kind of place definitely was a weak spot.

Xiao Wu left almost at the same time as Zhu Zhuqing, but she chose a different tree.

Actually, dealing with the kind of fortified for combat creatures like the Titan Giant Ape was what she was least adept at, but Xiao Wu still rushed forward without hesitation. No one knows why, but her



face instead looked somewhat relaxed. However, at times like these no one would pay attention to her expression.

Oscar didn't charge forward, but his mouth repeated the same sentence over and over again. I your father have a mushroom sausage, striving to prepare everyone's escape tool.

Hong——

Zhao Wuji's two Vigorous Vajra Palms, after thirty percent amplification, heavily slammed onto the Titan Giant Ape's head. The instantaneous increase in power and speed made Zhao Wuji very satisfied with his attack this time.

He's could be certain, other than activating his seventh spirit ring, this was already his peak strength.

But, a scene that made everyone horrified appeared. The moment Zhao Wuji's two palms slammed into the Titan Giant Ape, his entire body bounced away as fast as a cannon ball.

However, the Titan Giant Ape seemed to underestimate Zhao Wuji's strength. His entire head was slammed backwards. Soon after, this king of the forest burst out into a roar that could scare the sky.

Tang San, utilizing his Purple Demon Eye, clearly saw a wave of black erupt from the Titan Giant Ape. In the dark of the night, only he could clearly see this wave. Right after, no matter if it was Dai Mubai and himself attacking from the ground, or Zhu Zhuqin and Xiao Wu trying to attack from the trees, everyone was thrown flying by this terrifying black wave. The blue silver grass that was wrapped

around the Titan Giant Ape was shredded into pieces and didn't serve even the slightest use.

Because Tang San saw the black wave come out, his reaction was the fastest. Backing away swiftly, even though he still went flying off, he could control his body just enough to catch Xiao Wu, who was also sent flying.

Dai Mubai's power was, other than Zhao Wuji, the strongest. But because he was too close to Titan Giant Ape, when he was sent flying, he couldn't help but spit out a mouthful of blood.

The most unlucky was the sneaky Fatty. All the Phoenix Fire Wire he spit out got sent back at him by the black wave. Even though he was using his second spirit ability Fire Bathing Phoenix, he still got heavily hit by his own Phoenix Fire Wire, making him roll on the ground all the way until he got to Tang San's feet and Tang San helped him steady himself. Fortunately, the fire was his own, so he didn't get burned.

The Titan Giant Ape seemed enraged. At the same time as the black wave, its massive body finally moved drastically. With almost indiscernible speed it jumped up, its massive body falling from the sky, going straight at the center of everyone.

As of now, Zhao Wuji was still in the air. He was sent flying diagonally upwards. Even if he wanted to aid the students, it was too late.

Even though Tang San was alert of the Titan Giant Ape's speed, he still underestimated the horrifying Forest King in front of him. The

incomparably enormous body flew at him at unreal speeds. The terrifying pressure felt like a mountain on everyone, making everyone feel like they couldn't breathe.

This key moment showed everyone's varying reaction speeds.

Tang San reacted fastest. Years of training on hidden weapons made his reflexes far beyond normal people. First throwing out Xiao Wu held in his arms, starting by getting her away from the Titan Giant Ape's leap attack.

At the same time as throwing Xiao Wu, he kicked Fatty in his blubbery butt, making him slide away along the ground.

Simultaneously, using the force from the kick he rolled away horizontally. At the last possible moment leaving the range of the Titan Giant Ape's impact.

The time provided to Tang San was way too short. Even though his reaction speed was amazing, he only had enough time to save the people beside him, Xiao Wu and Ma Hongjun.

Dai Mubai's reaction speed was second only to Tang San's. The moment he saw the Titan Giant Ape jump into the air, he didn't have Tang San's speed to let himself and Zhu Zhuqin nearby leave the range of the Titan Giant Ape. But still he had his own ways.

Dai Mubai sharply stretched out his hand, the claws of the tiger paw extending as long as they could, just enough to pull Zhu Zhuqin into his arms. Although this left three gashes on Zhu Zhuqin's back, there was no time to care about that.

At the same time, he hit the ground with his palm, making a giant pit. The moment Zhu Zhuqin entered his embrace, he immediately hugged her and fell into the pit.

At this life and death moment, Dai Mubai's mind was very calm. He knew, no matter how big the Titan Giant Ape was, it would still hit the ground with a flat surface. As long as he was under the ground, he could avoid being squashed.

And the deep pit on the ground was just for that. Backing up a bit, even if he himself gets squashed, Zhu Zhuqin, who was under him, would be able to avoid getting hurt.

Even though Zhu Zhuqin is an agility type spirit master, when she fell into Dai Mubai's embrace, her mind blanked. At the same time the stinging pain from her back came, everything became black. Right after, giant quakes went through her entire body, the vibrations almost causing her to faint.

Oscar's reaction was undoubtedly the slowest, but he wasn't stupid. In fact, he was smarter than Dai Mubai.

He didn't have the power to create a pit in the floor, but he jumped out at almost the same time as Dai Mubai. Dai Mubai needed to use his tiger claws to pull Zhu Zhuqin from afar into his embrace. Oscar, on the contrary, very bluntly pushed Ning Rongrong onto the ground under him, hugging her while falling onto the ground.

The Titan Giant Ape walked around with all four limbs, Oscar

thought. If he landed with all four limbs as well, then as long as him and Ning Rongrong fell onto the floor, then they had a chance to survive. Even if he was really unlucky and actually got squashed, he would still die hugging a beauty. As the saying goes, “Die under a peony and be licentious even as ghost.”

Hugging a beauty from the Seven Treasure Glazed Tile School down to hell isn't a bad deal.

Ning Rongrong of course didn't know what Oscar was thinking. Her body wasn't as sturdy as Zhu Zhuqin's. Getting thrown onto the ground by Oscar, she fainted from the impact.

Peng——

The Titan Giant Ape landed with a boom. What made Oscar happy was, just as he thought, the Titan Giant Ape landed with four limbs, and he and Ning Rongrong were just under the Titan Great Ape's lower abdomen. Other than a strong quake, they didn't get hurt whatsoever.

But at this time, Tang San, who rolled away the moment the Titan Great Ape fell, felt ice cold inside, because he clearly saw the Titan Great Ape's forearm abruptly raise and catch Xiao Wu, who he threw into the air in an attempt to save her.

“NOO—— Let Xiao Wu GO!”

Watching Xiao Wu fall into the Titan Great Ape's hand, Tang San's eyes became red. Not waiting for his body to steady on the shaking ground, he kicked the ground and leaped upwards. Lending power from a nearby tree, he flew up. His hands passed over his belt lightning fast. Ten glinting weapons flew out, aiming straight for the Titan Great Ape's eyes.

The eyes were one of the Titan Great Ape's rare weaknesses.

Tang San's heart had fallen down to the bottom already. He knew clearly, that with the Titan Great Ape's strength, if it squeezed even slightly, Xiao Wu wouldn't survive, no matter how flexible she was.

## Part 3

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Zhao Wuji had also finally landed, and he saw the same scene of Xiao Wu falling into the Titan Giant Ape's grasp.

At this kind of moment, how would Zhao Wuji still hold back reserves, bellowing at the sky, the seventh spirit ring over his body abruptly erupted in deep black. Intense black light in a flash enveloped Zhao Wuji, immediately after, huge changes began to take place in his body.

After Vigorous Vajra Bear Body Enhancement, Zhao Wuji's already magnificent body rapidly swelled like balloon, in an eyeblink, his height already surpassed five metres, the muscles over his whole body swelling to exaggerated shapes, brown hair growing like crazy, unexpectedly entirely becoming like a genuine giant bear.

As his body completely changed into a bear shape, the light brown fur discolored in a flash, sparkling with bright golden light. Incarnated as a bear Zhao Wuji without hesitation pounced as a Vigorous Vajra Bear at the arm that held Xiao Wu.

The seventh spirit ring of all Spirit Masters with spirit beasts after reaching seventieth rank was similar, that was Spirit Avatar<sup>[3]</sup>. Same as the thirtieth ranked Spirit Master bottleneck, seventieth ranked was also the same, for Spirit Masters with Spirit Avatar's Beast Spirit, strength would substantially upgrade, at the same time, this ability could only be especially effective for them when their life depended on it.

What Zhao Wuji used right now, was his seventh spirit ring ability, it

was also the most powerful spirit ring ability Spirit Avatar with the most potent side effect. What he revealed, was equivalent to the spirit Vigorous Vajra Bear itself.

Under the use of Spirit Avatar, he could limitlessly employ apart from Spirit Avatar the seven rings or lower for thirty minutes, at one hundred fifty percent of the original might. An additional terrifying property of Vigorous Vajra Bear's Spirit Avatar was also to increase defense by two hundred percent. This was already Zhao Wuji's last redoubt.

Of course, after each time using Spirit Avatar, the Spirit Master's own attributes would weaken by fifty percent, requiring seven days to recover. Therefore, unless absolutely essential, Spirit Masters over seventieth rank would never easily use their Spirit Avatar.

施展了武魂真身的赵无极立刻得到了泰坦巨猿的关注, 毕竟, 在这个状态下的赵无极已经能够给它带来一定的威胁。

Zhao Wuji fully using Spirit Avatar immediately received the full attention of the Titan Giant Ape, after all, in this situation Zhao Wuji was already capable of being a threat to it.

At the same time, the Titan Giant Ape only did one simple action, making Tang San lose the full strength of his unleashed hidden weapons, he closed his eyes.

Dingdingdingdingdingdingdingding....., in a concentrated string of successive clear sounds, all the hidden weapons flying at the Titan Giant Ape's eyes were completely blocked by its eyelids. Simultaneously, the Titan Giant Ape suddenly stood upright, the hand holding Xiao Wu avoiding Zhao Wuji's charging attack, but his other arm rigidly colliding with Zhao Wuji's body.

Hong——

Fully employing the Spirit Avatar ability Zhao Wuji was truly powerful, with defense increasing two hundred percent and with Vigorous Vajra Bear body. This time he was not directly thrown away. Despite this, as a physical strength type Spirit Master in the end the difference in strength with the Titan Giant Ape was too much.

With a loud sound, Zhao Wuji staggered back seven or eight steps before managing to stand firm, but to that Titan Giant Ape it seemed like the exchange hadn't happened, mouth once again issuing a bellow.

As the black wave's full strength hit, Tang San with his hidden weapons were blasted off together into the distance, heavily striking a large tree.

"Don't!"

Xiao Wu seeing how Tang San was blasted off cried out in alarm.

The Titan Giant Ape lowered its head to look at Xiao Wu held in its palm, once again issuing a deep howl. This time, he did not pay any attention to Zhao Wuji pouncing again, abruptly leaping up, with just one rise and fall, it was already a hundred metres away, merging with the forest and disappearing out of sight.

"Xiao Wu——"

Zhao Wuji called out swiftly, wanting to chase after, but discovering his gap in speed compared to the Titan Giant Ape truly was too far.

But the power of the shock the Titan Giant Ape gave him just now almost broke his Spirit Avatar, right now his spirit power was substantially consumed. He knew that even if he caught up it would already be useless.

When Tang San slid from the large tree, the corners of his mouth were already completely blood stained, the injuries he had received clearly were not light.

Fatty Ma Hongjun stood up with his face filthy with mud and grime, massaging his butt kicked by Tang San.

Ning Rongrong had already awoken from fainting, with Oscar lending an arm to help her stand, but because she was still somewhat muddled, she half hung on Oscar.

Dai Mubai holding Zhu Zhuqing crawled out of the big hole he had blasted. Everyone looked at each other, all had a kind of feeling of a



new lease of life.

If this was a squad just consisting of Spirit Masters, only losing one member when confronting the forest king Titan Giant Ape, this was already a matter deserving celebration. But, they were not just a Spirit Master squad. But rather students.

Zhao Wuji couldn't accept not knowing the fate of his student grabbed by the Titan Giant Ape, Tang San was even more unable to accept it.

Resisting the acute pain within his body, Tang San crawled up off the ground, wanting to stand steadily, but with a vomiting sound belched up a mouthful of fresh blood.

The wave released from the Titan Giant Ape's body, gave people an indomitable feeling, even though Tang San's body was sturdy, such a heavy strike made his insides churn, as if his five viscera and six bowels<sup>[4]</sup> had all switched places.

Fortunately Mysterious Heaven Skill in itself possessed wonderful curative uses. Without him needing to drive it, it already very quickly calmed the qi and blood churning in his body.

Tang San silently walked up before Oscar. Oscar hastily handed over a Recovery Sausage to him, thinking to say something, but in the end did not find the words.

Tang San without the slightest hesitation swallowed the Recovery Sausage, under the effect of the sausage's recovering power, the condition of his injuries was immediately relieved somewhat.

Oscar's Recovery Sausage was after all his first spirit ring ability, although it had a certain effect for treatment and recovering physical strength, it could not instantly cure any injury. Treatment required a process, the body simultaneously also needed to recover on its own.

By now Zhao Wuji already unable to continue maintaining his Spirit Avatar, now himself, his complexion ashen,

"How could a Titan Giant Ape appear at the outskirts of Star Dou Great Forest. I let everyone down, it's all my failure, unable to stop

him from snatching Xiao Wu. Tang San, you, your grief.....”

No one could believe in the odds of Xiao Wu surviving being snatched by the Titan Giant Ape, including Zhao Wuji.

“No, I’m not blaming you. I was the one who didn’t protect Xiao Wu.”

Tang San since climbing up off the ground had continuously kept his head lowered, his voice was very calm, as if his mood was not at all disturbed.

Zhao Wuji sighed,

“Everyone first rest at once. Afterwards we’ll switch location and take our time making a decision.”

At this moment, in Oscar’s ears suddenly echoed a voice like a tiny mosquito, but also clearly inimitable sound,

“Little Ao, if you still are my brother, give me a mushroom sausage. Don’t make a sound, don’t let anyone see.”

Oscar was startled, he clearly distinguished this voice as belonging to Tang San. Only, not even Ning Rongrong supported by him reacted, apparently he was the only person who could hear this voice.

As he looked towards Tang San, Tang San also just raised his head, their four eyes meeting, Oscar lightning fast raised his hand to his face to cover his mouth, to prevent any sound of alarm.

Tang San’s eyes had currently become completely blood red, red as if bleeding, looking unspeakably monstrous. From his eyes, Oscar was able to deeply feel a kind of severe cold making it difficult to speak.

However, Oscar did not summon his mushroom sausage, because he knew what Tang San would do, precisely because he was Tang San’s brother, he even more could not let him go to his death. But, seeing Tang San’s blood red eyes, he was still unable to speak a single word.

The mushroom sausages he made previously when the Titan Giant

Ape issued that black wave had already fallen who knew where, only by remaking them could he have new ones.

Fortunately, the previous time period was brief, he had not managed too many, and his spirit power consumption was not large.

The tiny voice once again echoed,

“Little Ao, if it was your little sister being snatched, what would you do? Even if it only was a hope, I still have to try it. I beg of you. If I don’t go right now, then, this will become my lifelong regret. Give me a mushroom sausage. As long as I don’t die this time, little San will forever remember your favor.”

“Don’t mind it.”

Oscar sighed. Although he didn’t know what he would do if he was in Tang San’s place, he currently clearly understood Tang San’s frame of mind. As a man, some matters had to be done. Oscar fiercely clenched his teeth, this was the first time it was so difficult to chant his vulgar spirit incantation.

Right now, his soft vulgar voice to Tang San’s ears was just like life saving heavenly music.

Tang San speaking to Oscar couldn’t be heard by other people, but Oscar reciting his incantation could not like Tang San conceal his voice.

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## Notes

1. (泰坦巨猿)
2. As an interesting side note, “Bathing Fire Phoenix” (yu huo feng huang 浴火凤凰) is a homonym to “Lust Phoenix” (欲火凤凰)
3. (武魂真身) “Spirit True Body”
4. (五脏六腑) In Chinese medicine a classification for the internal organs. The five viscera (zang) organs are heart, liver, lungs, spleen and kidney. The six bowel (fu) organs are stomach, large intestine, small intestine, gall bladder, urinary bladder and san jiao.



# 032 – Wicked Butcher, Man Faced Demon Spider

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## Part 1

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Ning Rongrong at Oscar's side sobered from her half conscious condition, startled saying:

"Little Ao, what are you doing?"

Ning Rongrong's voice immediately aroused the others attention, Zhao Wuji was also an intelligent person, and his immediate realization was anything but reassuring. Unfortunately, they were still one step too late.

Tang San became the first person to eat a mushroom sausage, six illusory wings swiftly appeared at his back, and in the split second Zhao Wuji pounced, he brought his body to rise into the air.

"I'm sorry, teacher Zhao. I have to find Xiao Wu, even if she is already dead I still must retrieve her body."

By now, everyone at last saw Tang San's blood red eyes. Naturally they understood the extreme grief in his heart.

"Seven Treasure Words, second spoken: Speed."

Ning Rongrong's clear voice echoed, a line of brilliantly colored light floated in the air to Tang San, making the six illusory wings on his back immediately beat faster.

"Little San, go quickly. I'll support you. I've increased spirit power output, the accelerating effect should be able to last for one minute outside of my spirit power range. Definitely find Xiao Wu, she's my roommate as well."

Ning Rongrong as if not seeing Zhao Wuji's murderous gaze, spoke in a loud voice to Tang San.

Tang San looked deeply at Ning Rongrong, he did not say anything, because he didn't know if he still would have an opportunity to thank Ning Rongrong, already under the Soaring effect of the mushroom sausage he faced the direction the Titan Giant Ape had disappeared and flew off.

"You..... You....."

Zhao Wuji looked at Oscar and Ning Rongrong, already so angry he was speechless.

Oscar said with a wry smile:

"Teacher Zhao, you also saw little San's eyes. If we didn't let him go, I'm afraid he still would have chased after on foot. I can understand his frame of mind. If you must blame someone, blame me."

Zhao Wuji furiously said.

"Blame? What blame. Immediately give me your mushroom sausage. As we pursue, everyone go together. Dead or dying. Dying together is fine. Anyone who doesn't want to go, at once get out of Star Dou Great Forest."

Although Zhao Wuji's voice was angry, hearing his words, everyone's faces all showed expressions of unwavering determination. Even Fatty Ma Hongjun nodded.

Dai Mubai pulling Zhu Zhuqing's hand strode over, simply saying:

"Oscar. Quick."

Ever since he crawled out of the hole holding Zhu Zhuqing, he had continuously held her hand. When he saw Xiao Wu being snatched, he all along thought, if the one being snatched wasn't Xiao Wu but Zhu Zhuqing, how would he act. Perhaps he would be even more emotional than Tang San. Perhaps it was because of the feeling of crisis that he all along held on to Zhu Zhuqing's ice-cold little hand, no matter how Zhu Zhuqing struggled, he still didn't let go.

Zhu Zhuqing also hadn't struggled much, right now, her ice cold face already couldn't be seen, occasionally glancing at Dai Mubai, her

entire person clearly somewhat taciturn.

.....

The Titan Giant Ape ran quickly within the forest, he already seemed completely unhindered by Star Dou Great Forest's terrain, whatever the obstacle in front it would not slow down at all, and also wouldn't really bump into anything. The enormous body displayed astonishing agility, each time it leapt it was able to move forward a hundred metres.

Although the quantity and categories of spirit beasts in Star Dou Great Forest was numerous, each and every one could sense its smell, without exception retreating three day's march<sup>[1]</sup>. Who would dare obstruct the path of this frightful forest king?

Although Tang San had Oscar's mushroom sausage's flying effect and was able to rely on the Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent's flying speed, compared to this Titan Giant Ape he was still too slow. Furthermore, the Titan Giant Ape didn't at all advance in a single direction. Tang San basically would not have a chance of catching up.

If everyone from Shrek Academy saw the appearance of the Titan Giant Ape moving forward they would certainly be greatly shocked. Because, currently Xiao Wu already wasn't held inside its giant hand, but sat upright on the Titan Giant Ape's broad shoulder, even though the Titan Giant Ape rushed forward quickly, it was still extremely steady: sitting on his shoulder, Xiao Wu didn't even feel a bit of shaking.

Right now Xiao Wu's face was completely covered by a worried expression, occasionally glancing in the opposite direction of where the Titan Giant Ape was rushing.

"Er Ming<sup>[2]</sup>, right here. Don't continue. I have to hurry back as fast as possible. Otherwise, they'll be worried. Er Ming, you really shouldn't have come to find me."

Hearing Xiao Wu's words, the Titan Giant Ape unexpectedly miraculously halted. Moreover it lay down, letting Xiao Wu drop off

his shoulder. The big head shook, in the eyes unexpectedly revealed an innocent expression.

Xiao Wu muttering to herself said:

“Little San was injured. I was taken away, he will definitely be extremely worried. Little San, you mustn’t by any means be impulsive, ah, I will return immediately. Er Ming, the next time you sense my smell you must first watch from a distance, you must by no means act rashly, otherwise, if by chance you injure my friends it will be troublesome.”

Xiao Wu today had seen the extremely towering creature, but she basically couldn’t explain those kinds of circumstances to the Titan Giant Ape before her, and could only use special methods to repeatedly tell it not to injure anyone. But she was finally still brought away by the Titan Giant Ape. Even if Xiao Wu knew it was worried, but, in this situation was still nothing Xiao Wu wanted to see. Especially Tang San’s injuries gave her even greater concern.

The Titan Giant Ape seemed to understand Xiao Wu, the lantern like eyes brilliant, expression exceptionally gentle.

Xiao Wu raised her head to look at the Titan Giant Ape,

“Er Ming, is Da Ming<sup>[3]</sup> well?”

The Titan Giant Ape nodded.

Xiao Wu said:

“That’s good. I’m afraid my companions are worried, I have to go back immediately. Since I was brought away by you, I might as well complete my third spirit ring and not have to look for an opportunity again next time. I will begin right now. You stand watch for me. I’m sorry, Er Ming, although i wouldn’t help them kill spirit beasts, I also can’t prevent them.”

The Titan Giant Ape Er Ming shook its head, suddenly emitting a deep unhappy growl.

Its voice didn’t sound loud, but transmitted no less than a kilometre,



within this range all spirit beasts were terrified, lightning fast leaving their territory to flee outwards.

Xiao Wu was worried about Tang San's condition and did not dare delay longer, directly sitting cross legged in front of Er Ming. Both hands made graceful pinching hand movements, right hand palm up, resting flat on her thigh, left hand upright at her chest, mouth starting to emit a series of bizarre sounds.

Following this bizarre sound, Xiao Wu's both eyes gradually became red, two yellow spirit rings quietly appearing, rhythmically moving up and down around her body. Simultaneously, an enormous white empty shadow took shape behind her, unexpectedly exactly the shape of her spirit Jade Rabbit.

Faint red light gradually spread from Xiao Wu's body, and as time passed, the red light became more and more intense, the scarlet light filling the surroundings like blood.

The Titan Giant Ape Er Ming lay down next to Xiao Wu, watching Xiao Wu within the red light, in both enormous eyes displaying a somewhat longing light.

Time gradually passed, within that intense red light a layer of purple gradually showed, the purple light like points of starlight condensing, awesomely gathering in a round ring.

The purple ring lowered, settling over Xiao Wu's body. When starting just now, it was still somewhat unable to harmonize together with the other two rings of light, but as the red light strengthened, the purple ring also gradually steadied. Awesomely it was precisely a thousand year spirit ring.

Let alone other people, even if Tang San's Teacher was here, that regarding spirit research most profound Grandmaster, would perhaps still be unable to understand what had just happened to Xiao Wu, even more unable to understand why she was able to produce her own spirit ring.

Along with the third spirit ring's appearance, Xiao Wu's body line seemed to have become even more harmonious, the entire person

looking a bit older, whether it was chest or butt, they still appeared somewhat rounder, female characteristics also becoming even more perfect.

Only the childish nature on her face somewhat lessened.

At the same time, that empty white Jade Rabbit shadow behind her became much clearer after the third spirit ring appeared.

.....

Leaning against the side of a tree, Tang San gasped big mouthfuls of breath.

Oscar's flying mushroom sausage only allowed for one minute of flight, despite Ning Rongrong's spirit assistance, Tang San could still only fly less than three kilometres before falling out of the air.

Throughout the entire flight, Tang San already used his Purple Demon Eye to the limit, to be able to look for the Titan Giant Ape's silhouette.

But, everything turned out contrary to expectations, his most extreme eyesight still would not reveal any trace of the Titan Giant Ape.

Tang San was not resigned. He truly was not resigned. Throughout the flight, all kinds of things continuously came and went flashing through his mind.

The lively Xiao Wu, her mysterious Soft Skill, recognizing him as her elder brother, following silently, lovable charming appearance, without exception made Tang San's heart ache as if cut by knives.

Tang San had previously never believed that this world had gods, but right now he hoped, because he prayed to the gods, prayed Xiao Wu would be able to miraculously survive.

Even though he couldn't fly further, Tang San still wouldn't give up, he staked it all on one direction and advanced at full strength, hoping to be able to find spider's thread and horse tracks<sup>[4]</sup>.

The spirit power within his body helped by the Recovery Sausage

gradually recovered, but right now his physical strength was already somewhat overdrafted, with no choice but to stop a moment and catch his breath.

Although the red in his eyes had declined somewhat, it was still unable to in the slightest degree ease his serious mood.

'Xiao Wu, you are definitely alive. Definitely.' Tang San continuously told himself this.

Taking a look at the terrain of the surroundings, Tang San sat down leaning against the big tree, he knew that if he wanted to continue searching for Xiao Wu, he first had to recover his strength a bit.

## **Part 2**

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From Twenty Four Moonlit Bridges he pulled out a water skin, pouring out big mouthfuls, dampening his body and also preventing sleepiness.

The gasps for breath gradually steadying, Tang San didn't dare cultivate, because nobody knew when they might encounter a spirit beast. He only wanted to wait for his physical strength to recover a bit before continuing the search.

Suddenly, a burst of unusual sound attracted Tang San's attention.

A rustling sound as if from a person changing clothes, also like tree leaves rustling. Suddenly alerted, Tang San slowly stood up, cautiously looking in the direction of the sound.

Immediately after, he saw that sound was the origin of evil.

Black, making Tang San full of loathing, this suddenly appearing animal was like the previous Titan Giant Ape, its body also appearing black. However, compared to the Titan Giant Ape, its body was much smaller. But compared to its own kind, it was still extraordinarily big.

Appearing before Tang San was a spider, a monstrosly big spider with the diameter of its bulk exceeding one metre fifty, eight spear-

like legs exceeding three metres. Entirely covered by a glossy black carapace, the tip of the long legs were slender, and from each step forward noiselessly thrusting into the ground, it could clearly be seen how sharp they were.

As Tang San discovered it, it seemed to also discover Tang San, the eight long legs moving rhythmically at great speed, even leaving behind a string of mirages, in an eyeblink it already arrived before Tang San. The two forelegs lifted in a flash, directly stinging towards Tang San's head.

Raising the forelegs, it unavoidably also drove its body to rise above, just enough to let Tang San see its abdomen. This glance, let Tang San recognize its kind.

Tang San practically without hesitation dropped to the ground rolling, getting out of the way of the long legged spider's attack, drawing an unexpected breath, he had not expected he would encounter it in this place.

Under that spider's belly was a white veined pattern, forming a clear contrast to its black body, and these vein lines formed the shape of a fierce looking human face. Altogether eight flickering faintly bright little eyes sat close together under its abdomen. However among them two eyes had apparently been smashed by something, badly mangled and mutilated, even the carapace under its abdomen had several cracks.

Right now was night, if Tang San didn't use Purple Demon Eye, he still truly would have been unable to see these.

Seeing that fierce looking man face, Tang San called to mind the name of this spider before him.

The nightmare of small scale spirit beasts, the eater of living prey, the target of all spirit beasts' hatred, the terrifyingly evil butcher<sup>[5]</sup>.

These names were all used to describe this long legged spider before him. It was known as the Man Faced Demon Spider. Among spirit beasts, it was categorized as a terrifying existence. Of course, compared to the Titan Giant Ape, it clearly wasn't on the same level.

But, this kind of Man Faced Demon Spider was an organism even feared by spirit beasts.

It possessed a solid carapace, a strange incomparable speed, eight long legs possessing powerful piercing power and additionally extreme poison, but most dreadful was its spider web.

Common spiders all formed their webs by spinning it, but it was different, its spiderweb was directly spit out. Not only was it extremely sticky, moreover it was incomparably durable, in addition to its terrifying neurological venom. A spirit beast like Tang San's first spirit ring Datura Snake, facing this Man Faced Demon Spider before him could only be reduced to food, nothing more.

At the same time, this Man Faced Demon Spider was also one of the top goals Grandmaster had directed Tang San for his third spirit ring. Grandmaster once told him, Man Faced Demon Spider was the most difficult to obtain, and he must not by any means try to look for it. Because meeting a Man Faced Demon Spider, even if he had the assistance of formidably strong Spirit Masters at his side to subdue it, he would still very easily meet danger.

The Man Faced Demon Spider did not only spit out its spider web in an eyeblink, but was also able to cover an area ten times itself, practically impossible to dodge. Even if it was trapped by formidable Spirit Masters, it still required time to be able to struggle free. But this time was enough for it to be very eventful.

Tang San hadn't expected to encounter a Man Faced Demon Spider under circumstances like these. From looking at its figure, it clearly exceeded thousand years of cultivation. The Man Faced Demon Spider could spit its web three times in one day. Generally speaking, on seeing prey its first action would be to spit its web. But, right now it was relying on its long legs to attack. In addition to the injuries on its abdomen, this let Tang San think of a possibility: this Man Faced Demon Spider had already used up its spider web for today.

Confronting a normal condition Man Faced Demon Spider, Tang San knew he didn't have any chance, but if it was an injured Man Faced Demon Spider, that wasn't so certain. After all, he clearly understood the Man Faced Demon Spider's weak points, precisely

its eight eyes. How could it still possibly compare to that previous forest king. If he was able to kill the Man Faced Demon Spider before him, and absorb its spirit ring, then, he could practically be certain that his body's condition would immediately be able to recover to its peak degree, strength would also increase somewhat, and looking for Xiao Wu would naturally also become a bit easier.

These thoughts flashed through Tang San's mind. As he flipped over to stand, Blue Silver Grass Binding ability already launched, countless long and thick blades of grass abruptly twined around the Man Faced Demon Spider's body.

Tang San knew that relying on the Man Faced Demon Spider's physical strength, cutting open his Blue Silver Grass Binding was not at all a problem. The additional poison on Blue Silver Grass basically had no effect on it, as it had its own highly poisonous nature. The Man Faced Demon Spider apart from neurotoxin also had corrosive poison, the reason why it was so tyrannical. These were all things Tang San wished to have in his Blue Silver Grass. Therefore, obtaining this spirit ring was extremely important to him.

Turning over and up, in Tang San's left hand were already many black boxes, his right hand lightning quick moved to and fro above the black boxes, issuing a succession of mechanical noises.

The Man Faced Demon Spider was still faster than Tang San imagined, Blue Silver Grass' restriction clearly made it angry, a faint layer of purple gloss spread from its body, the Blue Silver Grass adhering to its body unexpectedly melting away. In other words, it was corrosive.

As Blue Silver Grass corroded a certain degree, the Man Faced Demon Spider threw it off completely unhindered, once again dashing in Tang San's direction, this time, its four front limbs were already raised, clearly it was about to deal Tang San a sure kill attack.

Tang San looked extremely cool-headed at the Man Faced Demon Spider, right hand lightning quick stroking from his waist, ten white lights shooting out simultaneously, going straight for the eyes on the Man Faced Demon Spider's abdomen.

As expected, the Man Faced Demon Spider was extremely protective of its vitals, in addition to already having two eyes suffer injuries, unable to attack Tang San, extremely quickly it crawled on the ground, the hidden weapons striking the carapace on its body, emitting a series of sparks. But at this moment, Tang San also completed the black box mechanisms in his hand.

Tang San could now be completely certain, this Man Faced Demon Spider confronting him had already spit out the spiderweb it could use today. A thousand year Man Faced Demon Spider was able to use spiderweb three times per day, only if it reached the ten thousand year cultivation level would this number increase. Adding the injuries it had already suffered, Tang San could be even more certain in his conjecture. Otherwise, with the Man Faced Demon Spider's ruthless personality, it would have been sure already to spit out spiderweb when confronted by his provocation, and not use its long legs to attack like right now.

The Man Faced Demon Spider was already thoroughly infuriated by Tang San. After resisting the hidden weapons, the purple shine that previously corroded the Blue Silver Grass appeared once again, before it had even approached, already a smell stinging the nose came through making people feel nauseous.

But right now Tang San didn't withdraw again, watching the lightning fast eight long legs shoot up, as the Demon Faced Spider pounced, he on the contrary went to meet it.

That in his hand already completely set up black box mechanism moved to his right hand, a black light flickering in his left hand, a decorated with an odd pattern black little Hammer quietly appeared in his grasp. Confronted with a life or death crisis, Tang San finally took out his second spirit.

Even though this second spirit did not have any additional spirit abilities, but, as Tang San's spirit power increased, its weight also continuously increased, the Hammer itself did not appear to change much, but this little Hammer's weight had by now already reached a terrifying five hundred jin<sup>[6]</sup>.

Tang San knew that he only had one chance, with his current

physical strength, in speed it was absolutely impossible to compare to the Man Faced Demon Spider, consequently escape was impossible.

But directly using hidden weapons to attack, with the Man Faced Demon Spider's alertness it was still very difficult for him to cause any true injuries.

After all, even if it was armor splitting type hidden weapons they still required the support of profound internal strength, and although Tang San's Mysterious Heaven Skill already had some progress, the word 'profound' was still far away.

Black light pulsing, Tang San dashing forward suddenly came to a complete stop, but the Man Faced Demon Spider's four forelegs had already lifted, this time, its speed was even faster, on the long legs all adhered that purple gloss brimming with corrosion, adding to its consciousness paralysing poison, let alone being struck directly, even if it was a small infection, it was sufficient to be fatal to Tang San.

## **Part 3**

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As the wicked butcher, the Man Faced Demon Spider used this kind of method to devour unknown numbers of spirit beasts and Spirit Masters who penetrated deep into the Star Dou Great Forest. The remaining six little eyes under its abdomen right now already gleamed with faint light.

Just as those four three metre long legs, just like steel tipped pikes abruptly flashed, Tang San moved.

Moving his left hand, Tang San had by now condensed his entire thirtieth ranked spirit power into his left hand, in a moment the spirit power poured into that black little Hammer.

Between eyeblinks, that black little Hammer in his hand swelled to twice its size, the decorative designs on the surface suddenly becoming clear, twinkling with faint blue light.



Swinging his left hand with full strength, that little Hammer whistled out, smashing straight at the Man Faced Demon Spider's torso.

The Man Faced Demon Spider's chest was armored and it was the most solid place on its entire body. Confronting Tang San's sudden attack, it habitually did not block.

Spirit Masters were able to sense within a certain range the intensity of a spirit beast's actual strength, and spirit beasts were equally capable of sensing a Spirit Master's strength. Originally this Man Faced Demon Spider's strength was far above Tang San's, only because of suffering injuries was it not so terrifying. But it was still able to determine that Tang San's strength wasn't equal to its own, and that his attack naturally wouldn't be able to cause any harm to its most powerful carapace.

Consequently, the Man Faced Demon Spider did not take any action against that Hammer flying towards its chest, the eight long legs still pierced straight down, about to dispose of Tang San and have him as its food. Spirit Masters with spirit power and spirit rings, to spirit beasts, were great supplementary food, able to increase cultivation by many years.

Unfortunately, this time the Man Faced Demon Spider miscalculated. After all it didn't possess the wisdom of higher level spirit beasts, how could its mind still compare to a human's?

With a dull peng sound, the Man Faced Demon Spider's downward pouncing body reversed up, its upper body smashed up into the air.

The Man Faced Demon Spider's judgement was correct, even though that Hammer aggregated Tang San's full spirit power, the Hammer's own weight reaching a frightful five hundred jin, but, it was still unable to break open its chest armor. The carapace was intact.

But, the power of this Hammer truly was too great, the black little hammer infused with Tang San's entire spirit power, the weight of this hit carried a thousand jin<sup>[7]</sup>. Although it was unable to truly injure the Man Faced Demon Spider, it still managed to smash its body back up.

This strike, was originally the last spirit ability Tang San and Xiao Wu together suffered when they faced the Tie brothers in Spirit Arena ring. At that time the Tie brothers used this All In One Throw to injure Tang San. Pondering about the painful experience, Tang San carefully reflected on this All In One Throw technique. He recalled, he also had the Hammer, although it didn't have additional spirit rings, couldn't it use this move? Although he was unable to like the Tie brothers' spirit ability give the Hammer a pursuing capability, he still had hidden weapon techniques, and regarding precision, in no way would he be inferior to the Tie Brothers' All in One Throw.

The weight of Tang San's Hammer already reached a frightful five hundred jin on its own, even if it didn't absorb his whole spirit power, when thrown it was already absolutely a powerful hidden weapon. Consequently, Tang San since that time had already practiced it several times. Although this black Hammer was heavy, he also wasn't a child who had just awakened his spirit power. Within ten metres, he could completely control the Hammer's precision.

Right now, at this most critical moment using this move, although exhausting Tang San's entire spirit power, it already gave the effect he anticipated.

The Man Faced Demon Spider's upper body smashed up, automatically revealing its lower abdomen. That white veined pattern like a fierce evil man's face momentarily enlarged before Tang San, those six still open faintly purple eyes brimming with dense cold and terrible light.

On Tang San's composed face was not a ripple, he raised his right hand straight up.

What was the strongest advantage to mechanism type hidden weapons? That was not needing to rely on any internal strength support to be able to generate their powerful killing power.

In Tang San's previous life, an unskilled martial artist once took Tang Sect's first rate mechanism type hidden weapon Torrential Rain Pear Blossom Needle<sup>[6]</sup> to easily kill a peak expert. This was Tang Sect's strongest area. Right now in Tang Sans hand this seemingly unremarkable, only one chi long black box, would use this power on

the Man Faced Demon Spider confronting him.

Gabeng, gabeng, gabeng, a series of mechanical cracks echoed from Tang San's right hand. Lines of jet black shadow shot out together. Tang San's wrist rocked slightly, partly to dissipate the jolting force from the black box, partly to maintain accuracy. With his skill, in such close range, how could he possibly lose precision?

One must know, the majority of mechanism type hidden weapons Tang San made used noiseless mechanisms, such capability could even easier injure the enemy. But for what reason did the black box mechanism in his hand still make these noises?

Of course the issue wasn't Tang San's crafting skill, that could prove only one thing, in order to pursue the might of this black box, Tang San gave up on noiseless mechanisms to make this mechanism type hidden weapon display its most terrifying firepower.

Altogether sixteen shadows flew out, under Tang San's precise control, the sixteen shadows did not let even the Man Faced Demon Spider's already injured two eyes escape, each eye was pierced by two shadows, between eyeblinks completely disappearing inside the Man Faced Demon Spider's body.

Although the Man Faced Demon Spider's eyes were its weak points, they also weren't without protection, on the surface of the eyes was a transparent protective layer whose defensive power was also considered pretty good.

But, before the shadows that spit out from the black box in Tang San's hand, this defensive layer was unexpectedly like rice paper. Without having even the slightest effect, it was clearly seen just how powerful the piercing power of these shadows was.

When previously confronting the Titan Giant Ape, Tang San did consider using this hidden weapon, but the situation at that time changed too rapidly, leaving him without the opportunity to use this hidden weapon. Although this hidden weapon's might as great, because the mechanism's launching power was too excessive, as a result each time it was used it had to be prepared on the spot, otherwise, over time the taut mechanism would be damaged.

Consequently, when facing the Titan Giant Ape Tang San didn't use it, right now confronting the Man Faced Demon Spider, Tang San finally took out this most overbearingly large caliber weapon among all his hidden weapons.

That one chi or more little black box did not look it, but its weight already exceeded thirty jin<sup>[9]</sup>.

Right hand finished shooting, Tang San without hesitation made his next move. Swiftly leaping back, directly into a roll, his body moving away ten metres or more.

“Sii——”

An ear piercingly sharp sound mournfully cry called out, in the dark sounding especially clear.

The next moment after those sixteen shadows entered the body of the Man Faced Demon Spider, that black carapace covering its body abruptly stiffened at once, immediately afterward, the whole body abruptly flipped over, violently raging on the ground.

This way, the nearby plants at once toppled like so much large fungi, what is called ‘a centipede dies but never falls down’, although this Man Faced Demon Spider didn't have a hundred feet, its vitality was still extremely tenacious.

Those sixteen shadows that shot into its eight eyes already completely entered within its head, but unexpectedly not even this kind of injury could let it die on the spot.

Purple light and blue liquid, in addition to its sturdy body, twisted and raged madly on the ground.

Weak plants were corroded in a moment, even bulky trees were shattered when struck by it. Within ten square metres was a complete mess, already without any kind of plant that could stay intact.

After Tang San rolled away ten metres he didn't stop, resisting the weak feeling in his body he quickly withdrew from the attack range of the Man Faced Demon Spider.

He knew, if this Man Faced Demon Spider hadn't already suffered fatal injuries, then, even if it couldn't see, it could still rely on his scent to find his location.

At last he felt he was safe, Tang San's both legs softened, no longer able to resist, fell down on his butt on the spot, gasping big mouthfuls of breath. Even the black box in his hand he already held somewhat unsteadily.

The flying Hammer without the support of his spirit power had already automatically disappeared, that Hammer completely emptied Tang San's spirit power, right now he had completely exhausted both his spirit power and physical strength. If it wasn't for the idea of searching for Xiao Wu supporting his body, perhaps he would already have passed out.

The Man Faced Demon Spider's churning became smaller and smaller, the carapace all over its body covered with that blue and purple sheen, purple black liquid continuously flowed from the cuts in its eight eyes, soon it was no longer alive.

Tang San knew before setting about the task, even if he used this black box in his hand to shoot the Man Faced Demon Spider, he might not be able to penetrate its carapace armor, but if it was only shooting at its weak points, at the Man Faced Demon Spider's eyes the defense couldn't do like the Titan Giant Ape and close its eyes.

Relying on a hidden weapon expert's cool head and his own made superior quality hidden weapons, he at last could be considered having survived this crisis.

As the Man Faced Demon Spider's life gradually faded, points of blue purple light began to condense above it, making it possible to absorb its spirit ring.

After a thousand year spirit beast died, the spirit ring could be maintained for one double hour, as long as it was within one double hour it could be absorbed.

Tang San was in no hurry to absorb the Man Faced Demon Spider's spirit ring, right now his body's condition truly was too lacking, he

was unable to determine this Man Faced Demon Spider's precise cultivation age, but could be certain it definitely exceeded a thousand years.

Spirit beasts' spirit rings also had many differences, the thousand Year Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent Oscar previously absorbed, belonged to a comparatively gentle kind of spirit beasts.

Absorbing its spirit ring naturally also wasn't difficult.

But this Man Faced Demon Spider before him was different, among spirit beasts it was definitely a vicious and ruthless existence, with regard to this, although its spirit ring was able to grant even greater amplification effects, the process of absorbing it was also more dangerous.

In order to support it a Spirit Master had to endure the shock of this kind of ruthless energy, when the body or will was unable to persevere, it was very possible to cause a fatal backlash effect.

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## Notes

1. Idiom: Give way in the face of superior strength.
2. (二明) "Second Bright"
3. (大明) "Big Bright"
4. Idiom: Tiny hints, clues.
5. (邪恶杀戮者) "Butcher" is an approximation, more literally it would be "Evil/Wicked Massacreist/Slaughterer".
6. 500斤 = 250kg
7. 1000斤 = 500 kg
8. (暴雨梨花针)
9. 30斤 = 15kg

# 033 – Meng Yiran Also Uses Hidden Weapons?

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## Part 1

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Although Tang San was impatient to save Xiao Wu, he still hasn't lost his mind. He knew, he needed to recover to a certain degree before he could absorb the spirit ring in front of him.

Now, he has no time to care about any possible danger anymore. Sitting there, he breathed heavily, getting a bit of much needed rest, then cultivated to recover some spirit power.

At this moment, the thing Tang San worried about the most happened. As the Man Faced Demon Spider's spirit ring slowly appeared above its corpse, three unexpected guests flashed out of the forest.

Though it wasn't the most dangerous case, a strong spirit beast, but when Tang San saw the three people, he couldn't help but feel his heart sink.

Of the three spirit masters, Tang San recognized two of them. These two were the people that just left not long ago, Serpent Grandmother Chao Tian-Xiang and the beautiful young girl Meng Yiran.

And beside them stood a third person, a tall and skinny elder. The

elder looked at least over seventy, with a head of silver hair just like Chao Tian-Xiang. In his hand was a light silver Dragon Headed Staff over four meters long. The dragon head of the staff was lifelike, appearing extravagant and intricate. A face covered with wrinkles showed his age. On him was unbelievably eight spirit rings oscillating up and down slowly.

Two yellow, three purple, three black. Although judging by quality, he only had one thousand year spirit ring advantage on Zhao Wuji, he had eight spirit rings. This meant he was a rank eighty and above Spirit Douluo. No need to ask, Tang San knew who this person was. He was Serpent Grandmother's husband, Meng Yiran's Grandfather, Dragon Duke Meng Shu.

The entire family of three was finally together. Dragon Duke didn't even need to release his spirit power. Merely with the eight spirit rings, Tang San felt like he couldn't breathe.

Even if Zhao Wuji and everyone else were all there, they would still be at an absolute disadvantage.

The Unrivaled Dragon Serpent family didn't notice the cultivating Tang San at first. Their attention fell onto the dead Man Faced Demon Spider first, and instantly their faces became twisted.

Meng Yiran even shouted out loud,

"No, how is it like this. Why, why? Who? Who killed my demon spider?"

Meng Yiran had changed into a tight green outfit and looked heroic,



but Tang San wasn't in the mood to appreciate that. Hearing Meng Yiran, he couldn't help but smile bitterly in the dark. How could coincidences be that untimely.

Some things might not happen in your entire life, but when fate decides to play with you, it can happen twice in a short period of time.

Of course, Tang San wouldn't hope that the family couldn't find him. With the Dragon Duke's spirit power, he only needed to slightly pay attention to hear Tang San's breathing, or even heartbeat. Running was definitely not an option, and Tang San didn't plan to run either. Real men dare to admit what they do. <sup>[1]</sup>

"I killed it."

This moment, his stamina had recovered slightly. Holding the tree beside him, he managed to stand up.

Tang San's voice instantly attracted the Unrivaled Dragon Serpent family. Meng Yiran saw the unkempt Tang San. At first she didn't recognize him, but then tears started circling in her eyes.

"You.....you.....you.....again it's you."

Tang San smiled wryly:

"I don't know why coincidences like this happen, but this time it truly is me again. Was this Man Faced Demon Spider your prey as well?"

Meng Yiran still stared at Tang San, her entire face growing bright red, obviously angry to the extreme.

Seeing Tang San, Serpent Grandmother also frowned, whispering something into the Dragon Duke's ears. Right after, Tang San saw the Dragon Duke's eyes.

Dragon Duke appeared to be old, but his eyes were unbelievably bright. Tang San had never seen such bright eyes.

From where he was standing to where the Dragon Duke was, there was at least thirty meters, but the Dragon Duke made him feel like they were but cun apart.

"You are Tang San?"

Dragon Duke Meng Shu said coldly. His voice sounded very clear, not a bit like an old man.

Tang San nodded.

"Then do you know, to kill this Man Faced Demon Spider, we've already been chasing for an entire day. If not for its annoying spider webs, it would've already become Yiran's spirit ring. Man Faced Demon Spiders are very scarce, because it isn't welcomed by any other spirit beast. Even in this Star Dou Great Forest, it is rarely seen, a lot more valuable than a Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent."

Tang San's face had lost all its color, but he didn't show any sign of fear. He indifferently said, "I know everything you said. But, I had to

defend myself. If a Man Faced Demon Spider suddenly appeared in front of me, are you saying I should stand still and let it kill me?”

Meng Shu frowned,

“You are saying, you killed this Man Faced Demon Spider by yourself?”

Tang San nodded.

Dragon Duke and Serpent Grandmother looked at each other, both seeing the astonishment in each other’s eyes. Even though the Man Faced Demon Spider isn’t an overly powerful spirit beast, in the thousand year category, it’s attack power is definitely ranked very high.

Though it didn’t have its spider webs, with its attack and defense capabilities, it still was slain by the twelve year old in front of them. How this happened was truly beyond the old couple.

Serpent Grandmother’s impression of Tang San was already high, but she couldn’t help but to raise her impression even more. Before, when Meng Yiran lost to Tang San, she didn’t think much about it. But now she realized, her grand daughter really wasn’t this child’s worthy enemy.

Dragon Duke Meng Shu’s Dragon Headed Staff flicked upwards, a stream of white spirit power thrown out of the butt of the staff, flipping over the Man Faced Demon Spider.

He saw the damaged eyes immediately, and couldn't help but nod in his mind.

Though he didn't know how Tang San did it, from the fact that Tang San could attack this Man Faced Demon Spider's weakness, he could tell the child's ability to remain calm in front of strong enemies. Looking at Tang San again, Meng Shu couldn't help but show some of his admiration.

"Grandfather, you have to stand on my side on this!"

Meng Yiran was only sixteen years old after all. Seeing another strong spirit ring stolen, especially by the same person, how could she possibly keep her anger in?

Meng Shu patted his granddaughter on her head, gesturing her to not worry. Looking up at Tang San, he said:

"Tang San, I'll give you two choices. I, Dragon Duke Meng Shu, have been going around the Spirit Master world for a long time, and I'm not unreasonable. Against a Man Faced Demon Spider, anyone has to protect themselves, so killing it is within reason. But, the two times you stopped my granddaughter from getting a spirit ring isn't going to be over just like that."

Tang San was trying hard to recover his stamina and spirit power, while lightly fiddling with the chi long black box in his hand.

This black box wasn't only fireable once. In the entire box were forty-eight arrows, so it could be fired three times, but every time you need to reattach the elastics. In Tang San's previous life, this unnoticeable black box was very famous. It had a name that everyone knew well ----Godly Zhuge Crossbow.

The rectangular black box had sixteen holes on one side, and it could simultaneously shoot out sixteen crossbow arrows with no tails. Within fifty meters, it could strike through gold and rock, extremely potent.

In the past, Tang Sect once displeased another clan. When they sent people to their clan to fight, not even the inner sect students came out.

With only a hundred outer sect students each holding a Godly Zhuge Crossbow, they easily slaughtered all the enemies, leaving no one alive. After that, the name of the Godly Zhuge Crossbow became widespread.

Among all mechanism type hidden weapons, other than the top Buddha Fury Tang Lotus, Torrential Rain Pear Blossom Needle, Peacock Tail Feathers and other rare ones, the Godly Zhuge Crossbow in Tang San's hand was the strongest.

Tang San of course knew, the Godly Zhuge Crossbow was not enough to be a threat to the Dragon Duke or the Serpent Grandmother, but it wasn't something that Meng Yiran could block. He already thought everything through. If they wanted to push him too much, he could always use this hidden weapon to bring someone down with him.

"What are the two choices you give me, elders?"

Tang San asked indifferently.

The Godly Zhuge Crossbow in his hands was almost ready. He only had to lengthen the conversation a moment longer before he could have the chance to fight before he dies.

Not to say, he still had a lot of other hidden weapons on him. If they wanted to kill him, it wouldn't be easy.

Meng Shu said:

“My choices for you are very simple. First choice, you join our family and become one of our family members. As you will be our family, the fact that you stopped Yiran from getting a spirit ring, and wasting this precious Man Faced Demon Spider's spirit ring will be forgiven.”

Joining the family? It sounded simple, but if he really joined, then it would be a lifetime commitment. For any Spirit Master, the moment they join a family, they could never betray them. They had to become a part of the family.

Everything you do after that in your life will be restricted by that family.

Of course, spirit masters that join big families were treated very well.

There were exceptions of course, but the precondition was that you had to be powerful to a certain degree. With Tang San's current situation, If he joined a family, then he would forever be only a person of that family. Meng Shu fancied Tang San's talent. Prodigies such as Tang San were very rare.

Tang San shook his head,

“Sorry, elder. I’m used to being free, I don’t like being restricted. And there is one part of what you said that was mistaken. Though the Man Faced Demon Spider was killed by me, it’s spirit ring won’t be wasted. If not for you appearing, I might have already started to absorb the ring.”

## Part 2

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“What?”

Serpent Grandmother Chao Tian-Xiang cried out in alarm, her gaze at Tang San immediately becoming strange. At the same time quietly using her hand to touch her husband once.

Unrivalled Dragon Serpent had been together for several decades, Meng Shu naturally understood his wife’s meaning.

“Tang San, surely you also understand, if it is without my approval, it will be impossible for you to absorb this Man Faced Demon Spider’s spirit ring.”

Meng Shu spoke indifferently. Although his tone didn’t vary much, the vaguely revealed killing intent still greatly increased the pressure on Tang San.

Tang San said:

“If it is like that, this Man Faced Demon Spider’s spirit ring truly will have been wasted.”

Meng Shu said:

“To us, such a good spirit ring, even if it’s wasted, we still wouldn’t easily give it to an outsider to absorb, in this Spirit Master realm, this in itself is already a kind of unwritten rule. If you join my clan, I will not only let you absorb this spirit ring, but can still protect you. How about it?”

With the Dragon Duke’s position, twice inviting Tang San in

succession, could already be considered good natured, he and Serpent Grandmother really were taken with Tang San's talent. After all this child was now still young, his future prospects would basically be immeasurable.

Tang San suddenly spoke up:

"Having me join your family still isn't impossible. But, you must promise me one thing."

Meng Shu's brows creased,

"What conditions are you qualified to put to us right now?"

Chao Tian-Xiang again touched her husband once, scrambling to say:

"What condition, say it."

In Tang San's eyes showed a sad expression,

"Previously we came across a formidable spirit beast, it snatched my companion. If the two seniors are able to help me retrieve my companion, I promise to join your clan. If my friend is dead, then I ask the two seniors to help me take revenge."

"Only killing a spirit beast?"

Meng Shu somewhat surprised looked at Tang San.

Chao Tian-Xiang's mind was a bit more careful than her husband's,

"Was Zhao Wuji not together with you? Don't tell me that he also was unable to stop that spirit beast?"

Tang San nodded.

Meng Shu snorted disdainfully,

"Zhao Wuji being unable to defeat it doesn't mean I also won't be able to. Let alone us together, in this Star Dou Great Forest, are there any kinds of spirit beasts able to contend with us? Tang San, what kind of spirit beast was that?"



Tang San eagerly said:

“It’s a Titan Giant Ape. It’s roughly over the ten thousand year level.”

Meng Shu was the highest level Spirit Master he had ever met, if he agreed to act in saving Xiao Wu, then naturally it would be much easier than him saving Xiao Wu. How could Tang San agree to let an opportunity like this slip by.

But, when the Unrivalled Dragon Serpent husband and wife heard the three words ‘Titan Giant Ape’, the two simultaneously stiffened at once.

The strong disdain in Meng Shu’s eyes faded away. With a somewhat awkward expression, Chao Tian-Xiang frowned even greater, shaking her head with a sigh, her words making Tang San extremely disappointed,

“That’s impossible for us.”

“With the two seniors’ strength, don’t tell me it’s still impossible to deal with that Titan Giant Ape?”

Tang San eagerly said.

Meng Shu snapped:

“What do you understand, the Titan Giant Ape is a different kind of ancient, great strength, let alone us, even a Title Douluo wouldn’t dare speak of obtaining victory. Furthermore, according to what I know, in this Star Dou Great Forest there is only one Titan Giant Ape. Its cultivation age can’t be as simple as ten thousand years, until this day it has at least surpassed sixty thousand years cultivation. It’s truly the overlord of this forest. Moreover, the Titan Giant Ape still has an even more terrifying elder brother. Unless it was the Title Douluo of both Great Empires assembled here, otherwise, who would dare speak of killing them?”

Chao Tian-Xiang said towards Meng Shu,

“Old codger, we must also leave immediately. Didn’t expect a Titan Giant Ape to appear in the outskirts now. This could not be a good

omen. However, it would appear its mood isn't bad, without even massacring Spirit Masters. Otherwise, Tang San this kid also could not stand alive before us."

The Unrivalled Dragon Serpent clearly understood this Star Dou Great Forest even more than Zhao Wuji, Tang San also knew with his status it was basically impossible to cheat them. But, Meng Shu's words also made him approach despair.

His estimation of the Titan Giant Ape was very high, but hearing what Meng Shu knew, his estimation was still insufficient. That Titan Giant Ape compared to his imagination was even more formidable. Furthermore unexpectedly still had a compared to it still more difficult to deal with brother, requiring all the Title Douluo to have the capability to kill them. How this couldn't be equivalent to giving Xiao Wu a death sentence, right now Tang San didn't understand why such a formidable spirit beast would unexpectedly appear in the outskirts of Star Dou Great Forest.

Regarding him being unable to deal with the Titan Giant Ape, Dragon Duke Meng Shu seemed somewhat resentful,

"Kid, don't you blame the Titan Giant Ape to make fun of me. I don't have the time to waste with you. If you join my family, I will help you absorb this spirit ring. Otherwise, you can only pick the second option, leave behind one arm as compensation for my granddaughter and you can leave."

Tang San sobered from his despondency, raising his head towards the Unrivalled Dragon Serpent husband and wife, he deeply knew, the difference between him and the other side was really too far, even without speaking of the other side's seniority. But at this very moment, in his heart stubbornness had already risen, he was also unwilling to compromise at this point.

Slowly raising the Zhuge Soul Crossbow,

"Since you can't help me accomplish my wish of returning Xiao Wu, I naturally also can't join your clan. If you want my arm, you come and take it."

Although his spirit power hadn't recovered, Tang San had already regained a bit of physical strength. At least launching a mechanism type hidden weapon was no problem.

Meng Shu didn't expect a minor Spirit Grandmaster to dare disobey him, the Dragon head Cane in his hand stomped on the ground, issuing a rumble like an earthquake, if Tang San wasn't leaning his back against a tree, perhaps he would directly have collapsed from the powerful spirit power.

"Since you want to die, I will let you accomplish it."

Meng Shu's eyes were filled with killing intent, since such a talented youngster couldn't be useful to him, then, it also wasn't necessary for him to stay in this world.

At the moment Dragon Duke prepared to launch his attack, suddenly, a deep hoarse voice echoed,

"Senior Dragon Duke, do not be too strict."

A line of silhouettes quickly arrived, in the lead, was precisely Motionless Bright King Zhao Wuji, behind Zhao Wuji, the Shrek students swiftly arrived, each and every one appeared somewhat tired. In order to look for Tang San's trail, they had all along not rested.

Previously the Man Faced Demon Spider's strict cry which had drawn the pursuing Unrivalled Dragon Serpent husband and wife in the vicinity, also gave them a direction. But because they were too far away, they couldn't directly find it. Dragon Duke's cane striking the ground finally once again showed them the way, and Zhao Wuji brought the group to swiftly rush over.

Seeing his comrades arrive, Tang San's mind immediately relaxed somewhat, body in a moment almost falling. Fortunately Dai Mubai swiftly reached his side and supported him, just enough to keep him from falling.

In the fight with the Titan Giant Ape Tang San's injuries had not been light, although he had eaten a Recovery Sausage, he still had not healed completely, adding the consumption of the rushed journey, as

well as the battle of wits and bravery when dealing with the Man Faced Demon Spider, one could say his spirit power and physical strength were completely drained. If he wasn't for the support of his willpower, he might have collapsed long ago.

Oscar also hastily ran over, directly handing Tang San two fresh sausages to eat.

The Recovery Sausages' warmth diffusing in chest and stomach, Tang San immediately felt much more comfortable. Along with Oscar advancing to the Spirit Elder realm, the effect of his Recovery Sausage also improved somewhat, although with two in his stomach spirit power recovery did not stack, regarding physical strength recovery the support would nevertheless be much greater than with one.

On seeing Zhao Wuji appear, Dragon Duke Meng Shu's facial expression did not alter at all, the Unrivalled Dragon Serpent husband and wife pair were both there, naturally would not fear Zhao Wuji alone.

Seeing the Dragon Head Cane in Meng Shu's hand, Zhao Wuji was also secretly grumbling, especially those eight spirit rings, had a great shocking effect to him. Before he already used Spirit Avatar once, right now he only had fifty percent of his peak condition. Let alone Meng Shu, even if it was just Serpent Grandmother Xhao Tian-Xiang he still wouldn't be able to handle her.

"This must be senior Dragon Duke, it is an honor to junior generation Zhao Wuji to meet you."

What is called 'an outstretched hand will not strike a smiling face', Meng Shu glanced at Zhao Wuji,

"Motionless Bright King, there is no need to stand on ceremony. Do you not teach your disciple, nobody bullies our Meng family? Not content with the Phoenix Tail Crest Serpent, your disciple also killed my granddaughter's prey the Man Faced Demon Spider, shouldn't you give me an explanation?"

Zhao Wuji said:

“Senior, I see there has been a misunderstanding. Furthermore, although I am these children’s teacher, Tang San can’t be considered my disciple, his master is someone else, I dare not take credit.”

“Eh?”

Meng Shu looked blank a moment, in his heart secretly trembling. Thinking to himself, ‘that youngster called Tang San’s strength is this astonishing, then wouldn’t his master be.....’

Zhao Wuji was somewhat shrewd, immediately saw the hesitant expression on Meng Shu’s face, quickly saying:

“Dragon Duke senior, is it possible to speak a step away?”

Meng Shu’s brows knitted minutely, but still nodded once, right now he held the overwhelming advantage, naturally he wouldn’t fear any plot of Zhao Wuji’s. The Dragon Head Cane poked the ground, already carried him twenty metres distant.

Zhao Wuji hurriedly followed, saying something to Dragon Duke in a low voice.

Just in the beginning Meng Shu’s face displayed an extremely astonished expression, gradually, his complexion looked somewhat unsightly.

Zhao Wuji’s expression on the contrary was very serene and polite, in a moment, the two had already finished their conversation.

Meng Shu walked back to his wife and granddaughter, saying several sentences to Serpent Grandmother in a low voice, Serpent Grandmother showed an equally astonished expression, as the old husband and wife pair’s gazes once again shifted to Tang San they already became somewhat different. But all this, naturally also fell into Tang San’s eyes.

## **Part 3**

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What did teacher Zhao say to them? Did he tell them he was Grandmaster’s disciple? But, although Grandmaster was very

knowledgeable about spirits, his own power wasn't outstanding, seemingly insufficient to cow the Unrivalled Dragon Serpent.

As expected, Meng Shu said:

"So he's Grandmaster's disciple. Didn't expect that Grandmaster's theory finally has a chance to come true. Today on account of Grandmaster, I will let you go once. However, remember kid, if something similar happens again, I won't care who your master is. We're leaving."

Finished speaking, he turned about to leave.

"Grandpa."

Meng Yiran looked at her grandpa and grandma about to leave, immediately worried.

"Grandpa, twice he robbed my spirit beasts, will you let this be?"

Meng Shu somewhat helplessly looked at his granddaughter, saying:

"Then what do you still want? Grandpa is so old, we can't have the old take unfair advantage of the young. Better let it be."

Meng Yiran obstinately looked at her grandpa,

"No, I can't let it be like this. If I can't have it, then I absolutely can't let him have it. Since you're unwilling to act on my behalf, then I'll do it myself. Tang San, if you are a man, have another contest with me."

Tang San frowned,

"You still want to compete with me? Have you forgotten you lost to me once already?"

Oscar's sausage was indeed special, in a short time, Tang San's spirit power already recovered to three tenths, his physical strength had returned even more substantially, his complexion already became much better looking. Meng Yiran nodded firmly,

"Yes, I must fight you again. Don't think because you won last time you can beat me again. I also won't take advantage of your currently lacking spirit power. We'll fight in another way. You've twice robbed

me of spirit beasts, so this contest's contents should be my decision.

Tang San drew a deep breath. Feeling his internal condition had already greatly improved, he unhurriedly strolled forward,

“What is the bet?”

If it was only Meng Yiran, he had enormous certainty, although his spirit power was lacking, he could still use hidden weapons to contend against her. The Godly Zhuge Crossbow in his hand was already a top notch mechanism, although he knew right now after his compromise with the Unrivalled Dragon Serpent he couldn't kill Meng Yiran, he could still rely on hidden weapons in many ways to be able to take away Meng Yiran's ability to fight.

Meng Yiran hatefully glared at Tang San, saying:

“If I win, you can't absorb this Man Faced Demon Spider's spirit ring. If you win, it naturally is yours.”

Regarding the Man Faced Demon Spider's spirit ring, Tang San could be said to be determined to win. Just by obtaining it, he would be able to extremely quickly recover his physical strength to search for Xiao Wu.

“Fine, what do we compete in?”

The Unrivalled Dragon Serpent husband and wife were not currently in any hurry to leave, standing to the side without interrupting, supporting their granddaughter. The two husband and wife occasionally muttered a few sentences with unknown contents.

On the Shrek Academy side, Zhao Wuji wrinkled his brows, he had not thought this time Meng Yiran would be a new branch grown out of the knot<sup>[2]</sup>. In order to have Dragon Duke let Tang San off, he had already told Meng Shu some secrets, otherwise, with the Unrivalled Dragon Serpent's tyranny, how would they leave so easily?

Meng Yiran was just about to speak, when previously at Tang San's side, Oscar rushed to speak:

“Wait a minute, this is unjust.”

Everyone looked at Oscar, Oscar wandered up to Tang San's side, speaking frankly with assurance,

"This Man Faced Demon Spider was clearly killed by Tang San. Even if you previously injured it, it still could only be considered one person killing half. Right now also only Tang San is able to absorb this spirit ring. This bet of yours clearly isn't fair."

A baleful air flickered in Meng Yiran's eyes,

"Then what do you want?"

Oscar smiled darkly, saying:

"It's not what I want. If you lose, you naturally can't obstruct Tang San absorbing this spirit ring. Simultaneously, shouldn't you also pay a bit? What we ask isn't much, at that time, you only need to kiss Tang San once."

"Little Ao."

Zhao Wuji groaned, he didn't want the Unrivalled Dragon Serpent to be infuriated once again.

But what surprised Zhao Wuji was, Dragon Duke Meng Shu suddenly spoke up:

"Good. It's decided. Young people must always have a bit of passion."

While speaking, on this Dragon Duke's face for the first time revealed a smiling expression, and at his side Serpent Grandmother's face faintly blushed.

Oscar had no idea that this proposal of his made the Unrivalled Dragon Serpent before them recall a scene from their youth. At that time, when Dragon Duke Meng Shu first met Serpent Grandmother Chao Tian-Xiang, it was with a bet he gained Chao Tian-Xiang's company. At last in the end walking together they admittedly still had all kinds of fortune. But originally making that bet played a crucial part. At that time, the conditions Meng Shu proposed were unexpectedly exactly the same as what Oscar said now.



In Dragon Duke and Serpent Grandmother's eyes, although Tang San's appearance was a bit common, far from being able to compare with Dai Mubai, both his talent and what Zhao Wuji just now told Meng Shu, made them look extremely favorably on this child. Regarding their granddaughter's future, this old husband and wife had already planned ahead properly. They also wanted to see, under these kinds of conditions, whether Tang San was able to once again best their granddaughter.

Regarding grandpa's decision Meng Yiran couldn't help but be somewhat astonished, but she didn't refuse, since she had absolute confidence in the method of fighting she was about to propose.

Tang San was only impatient to obtain the spirit ring and not concerned with other matters, anyway this bet wasn't of any harm to him. Raising his hand towards Meng Yiran he made an inviting gesture.

Resolutely glaring at Tang San, Meng Yiran just raised her right hand, on her flawless wrist a suet white jade<sup>[3]</sup> ring twinkling with faint gloss, in a flash of light, a long cloth bag had already appeared in her hand. Clearly, that ring was also a spirit tool.

The cloth bag's length was about two chi<sup>[4]</sup> or so, its width approximately half a chi. Meng Yiran separated her hands, the cloth was already split into two halves, and when she turned around the cloth, everyone clearly saw that on the cloth strip hung a many identical in shape and size short blades.

The short blades lacked hand guards, to Tang San's professional gaze, those were clearly throwing knives. Only these throwing knives in Meng Yiran's hands were somewhat simple and crude, apart from two blood grooves, they didn't have any special characteristics. The knife handles were about three cun<sup>[5]</sup> long, the blades five cun. The material was pretty good, flickering with faint light.

"I have here thirty six Spirit Cleaving Knives<sup>[6]</sup>. You and I will each have eighteen. Later I will have grandpa shake a tree twenty metres away, making the leaves fall. You and I will act at the same time, throwing Spirit Cleaving Knives. The one piercing the most tree leaves wins. But no matter how many leaves are hit, the Spirit

Cleaving Knife has to in the end stick in the tree trunk, Spirit Cleaving Knives that don't hit the tree don't count in the final score."

Meng Yiran confidently declared her method of competition, after she finished speaking the last sentence, she discovered the Shrek Academy group before her had become somewhat strange.

Motionless Bright King stared at her wide eyed, blinking incessantly.

The two pupils in Evil Eye White Tiger Dai Mubai's Evil Eyes actually momentarily became a single pupil.

Oscar used his hand to cover his wide open mouth.

Ma Hongjun staggered, almost falling on the ground.

The chill on ice cold Zhu Zhuqing's pretty face retreated, leaving only a stunned expression.

Ning Rongrong giggled, laughing out loud.

But Tang San face to face with Meng Yiran, on his face was an expression like a smile yet not a smile. Since Xiao Wu was snatched by the Titan Giant Ape, this was still the first time his expression had relaxed, even turning his wrist, returning the Godly Zhuge Crossbow to Twenty Four Moonlit Bridges at his waist.

"Are you all fools? Or don't you dare take up the challenge?"

Meng Yiran seeing the expressions of everyone on the Shrek Academy side, with a kind of mocking feeling, immediately angrily said to her opponent.

Oscar used his hand to close his wide open mouth, resisting laughter saying:

"How couldn't we accept the challenge? Your competition method is very good, truly very good."

Right now he was already thinking about where on Tang San he should make Meng Yiran kiss.

Comparing hidden weapons with a Tang Sect disciple, was indeed very good. Right now, even Zhao Wuji's face displayed a smiling

expression.

Meng Yiran naturally didn't know what everyone was thinking, looking at Tang San,

"Aren't you resting again, I can't be said to bully you."

Tang San naturally wasn't as sly as Oscar, helplessly shaking his head, saying:

"It's fine as long as you later don't say I bullied you. Can we begin?"

If the contest was something else, Tang San might truly have had to recover another moment, but Meng Yiran was proposing to compare hidden weapons with him who had cultivated Tang Sect hidden weapon secret lore inherited techniques since childhood. Let alone the spirit power he already had somewhat recovered, even if he currently didn't have a trace of spirit power, Tang San would still believe there was no way he could lose to Meng Yiran.

Meng Yiran threw one of the cloth bags in her hands to Tang San, currently she was still brimming with confidence. Pointing at a large tree roughly twenty metres distant, saying:

"We'll use that as a target."

Tang San shot glanced at that tree, saying:

"Fine."

The handles of the Spirit Cleaving Knives in the cloth bag in Meng Yiran's hand were all tied with red silk ribbons, the ones in Tang San's hands were all tied with blue silk. No worries of mixing them up.

Meng Yiran couldn't see the expressions on the Shrek Academy students, but how could Meng Shu and his wife not see clearly. But what they in their hearts didn't comprehend, was why these Shrek Academy people looked like they already held certain victory.

Meng Yiran had since childhood liked every kind of weapon, especially short weapons. These thirty six Spirit Cleaving Knives, Dragon Duke Meng Shu had after careful thought specially found

someone to make for her, Meng Yiran were extremely fond of these throwing knives, frequently practicing. Within thirty metres she could hit the target one hundred percent of the time. Of course, she was only able to throw eighteen knives in a short time. Her proposed contest restrictions were just at her limit.

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### Notes

1. 大丈夫敢作敢当: Roughly translated it's "Big Husband (manly man) dare to do, dare to be."
2. Idiom "a new branch grows out of the knot": side issues keep arising.
3. Literally "Sheep Fat White Jade", a kind of pure white jade.
4. 2尺 =  $\frac{2}{3}$  m
5. 3寸 = 10cm
6. (破魂刀) "Break/Split/Destroy Spirit Knife"

# 034 – Limit Surpassing Man Faced Demon Spider Spirit Ring

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## Part 1

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When previously competing against Tang San, because the two very quickly entered the phase of competing with spirit power, Meng Yirang didn't use her Spirit Cleaving Knives, Meng Shu wasn't convinced that Tang San who held this kind of throwing type weapon for the first time could do even more outstanding than his granddaughter.

Meng Yiran nodded to her grandpa,

“Grandpa, begin.”

Meng Shu said to Tang San:

“Are you ready?”

Tang San nodded, when competing in hidden weapons, could he still need to prepare? Of course, with his temperament, he naturally couldn't say something like that.

Meng Yiran swiftly stuck the cloth bag to the clothes around her waist, on the back of the bag were convenient fasteners that could adhere to any texture of clothing. As she wore her cloth bag she still specially looked at Tang San, discovering Tang San was somewhat blankly holding the cloth bag in one hand, appearing like he couldn't at all use throwing type hidden weapons. Seeing this scene, Meng Yiran found it hard not to be a little pleased with herself.

Dragon Duke Meng Shu acted, not taking a step himself, but making a casual throw, throwing out the four metres long Dragon Head Cane in his hand.

A loud and clear dragon's cry rose from the Dragon Cane head, the silver cane like it turned into a living silver dragon, swiftly struck the

big tree twenty metres away.

With a muffled peng sound, the strength Meng Shu used was perfect, sufficient to display a shaking force, without injuring the tree itself, the leaves falling like rain.

With a charming shout, Meng Yiran used both hands simultaneously, one by one throwing out a succession of cold swift lights from the cloth bag, her motions could also be considered nimble, in one breath the eighteen Spirit Cleaving Knives had all been thrown.

Perhaps it was because her heart was brimming with fury at Tang San, thereby exciting her mood, Meng Yiran clearly sensed that throwing her Spirit Cleaving Knives today felt unusually good. She was certain that each of her Spirit Cleaving Knives had accurately hit the target, some even piercing two leaves.

Meng Yiran's attention was focused on completing throwing her throwing knives, but Meng Shu after using the Dragon Head Cane, let his gaze fall on Tang San. His Dragon Head Cane was a Tool Spirit, after getting rid of it he only had to rely on spirit power to retrieve it, no need for painstaking control. He wanted to see whether this youngster called Tang San could once again provide him some amazement.

Under Meng Shu's gaze, Tang San's actions greatly puzzled the Unrivalled Dragon Serpent husband and wife. When the Dragon Head Cane struck, he at once already turned around.

But instead of turning towards that target tree, he rather had back to it. At the same time as Meng Yiran acted, Tang San moved the cloth bag in his hand. The entire cloth bag in his right hand unfolded in a flash, immediately following, the cloth bag quickly shook.

Eighteen cold lights practically simultaneously left their original positions.

Meng Yiran's Spirit Cleaving Knives naturally shot out straight ahead, but Meng Shu clearly saw that the Spirit Cleaving Knives Tang San threw unexpectedly travelled in an arc.

Throwing one throwing knife in an arcing pattern already required

superior skill and technique, but Tang San without even using his hands to directly control them, only throwing them by the cloth bag, gave all the Spirit Cleaving Knives this kind of effect.

Even as a Spirit Douluo Meng Shu couldn't help but be gobsmacked, looking carefully in the direction Tang San's Spirit Cleaving Knives were flying.

A duoduo sound erupted, the concentrated sound of the short blades piercing the tree trunk. The tree leaves gradually drifting down, the contest had already ended.

Meng Yiran turned her head to look at Tang San, just in time to see Tang San turn back, she couldn't help but somewhat startled and angrily saying:

"You won't shoot?"

Tang San shook the empty cloth bag in his hand, saying:

"I already did."

The moment Meng Yiran looked distracted, the Unrivalled Dragon Serpent husband and wife already reached her side. Meng Shu sighed, saying:

"Brilliant skill. Yiran, you lost."

Meng Yiran failing to understand the reason why looked at her grandpa, Meng Shu shook his head towards her, saying:

"No need to see the result. We're leaving."

"No, I don't believe it."

Without first seeing it with her own eyes, how could Meng Yiran be convinced that her most expert throwing weapons skill would lose to this Tang San who already was without physical strength? Ignoring her grandparents' obstruction, she ran like flying to that big tree. She couldn't believe that she unexpectedly would lose.

Meng Shu sighed, muttering to himself:

"This time perhaps the blow to her won't be small. However, letting

her understand that there are people beyond people, heavens beyond heaven<sup>[1]</sup> principle, that's also no harm."

Reaching the foot of the tree, Meng Yiran first of all looked at the throwing knives she had thrown. Just like what she had estimated, the eighteen throwing knives were completely stuck on the tree trunk, moreover within a small area. On each Spirit Cleaving Knife was at least one tree leaf, at most even three.

Compared to her ordinary level it was still somewhat better.

But, as Meng Yiran's gaze moved up, looking for those Spirit Cleaving Knives with the blue silk ribbons, her entire person dulled.

Eighteen blue silk ribboned Spirit Cleaving Knives were neatly stuck on the tree trunk in three rows, each a row of six, just right to form the character 三<sup>[2]</sup>.

Each Spirit Cleaving Knife pierced a stack of tree leaves, even to the extent that the knife blades entered the tree with the exact same depth. Compared to Meng Yiran's eighteen unevenly stuck Spirit Cleaving Knives, this contrast was just too clear.

Meng Shu's voice reached Meng Yiran's ears,

"Girl, concede. Tang San's skill is something even I am unable to accomplish. Throwing at the same time, hitting the tree at the same time, even only making a single sound, with each Spirit Cleaving Knife piercing ten tree leaves or more. Furthermore, when throwing he completely had his back turned, without using his eyes to see. Skill like this can only be described as brilliant."

Meng Yiran slowly turned around, looking at her grandpa, although her gaze was no longer dull, her entire person looked like she had lost her spirit. Without even her Spirit Cleaving Knives, she walked back to her grandparents step by step.

Just like what Meng Shu said, being beaten in her most expert capability actually was too great a blow to Meng Yiran.

Within three days, losing to Tang San twice in succession, moreover one loss more wretched than the other, being robbed of two spirit



beasts. The confidence she'd always had was beaten bruised and bloody by Tang San.

Tang San strode forward several steps, palm swiping at his waist, a steel needle spraying out, completely hitting loose the Spirit Cleaving Knives on the tree, the steel needle also returning to his hand with the following trajectory, the Spirit Cleaving Knives were also collected one by one in his hand using the cloth bag to bundle them up.

Finishing this, Tang San with quick steps caught up before Meng Yiran,

“Miss Meng, your Spirit Cleaving Knives.”

Meng Yiran raised her head to look at him, right now, her beautiful mien appeared somewhat pale,

“Are you making fun of me?”

Tang San shook his head, saying:

“No. In fact you need not feel sad. I've practiced hidden weapons since I was three, although I am still only twelve this year, I've already practiced for a full nine years. When just now using hidden weapons it was already at my full strength. That was the most exquisite skill I'm currently capable of using.”

“Hidden weapons?”

Some of Meng Yiran's interest was piqued by this brand new term.

Tang San handed over the Spirit Cleaving Knives into her hands,

“Weapons used stealthily to display their effect, I call it hidden weapons. Hidden weapons shouldn't be used for contests, but is a method to unexpectedly reach victory by catching the opponent off guard.”

When Meng Yiran proposed to compete with him in hidden weapons, Tang San apart from not knowing whether to laugh or cry, still had a kind of amiable feeling. After all, since coming to this world this was the first time another person had appeared to be using hidden

weapons. Again recalling that ever since meeting this girl older than him, although really hadn't been deliberate, he had still caused her a lot of trouble. Robbing her of two useful spirit rings, in his heart he still somewhat regretted it. Right now the situation was already set, but he couldn't help tell Meng Yiran's a few things. He didn't hope for Meng Yiran to give up cultivating hidden weapons from now on because of the blow today.

Meng Yiran's big eyes blinked, saying:

"Then why are you able to use hidden weapons to that kind of degree?"

Tang San said:

"Practicing hidden weapons still requires a certain method. Actually, this kind of throwing knife doesn't suit you. For you, its volume is somewhat too large and its weight is also somewhat high. I think that if you switched to throwing needles, it would be even more effective. Just like this."

While speaking, he raised his hand to swipe across a jade stone on Twenty Four Moonlit Bridges, a Penetrating Bone Needle as long as five cun<sup>[3]</sup> already appeared in the palm of his hand.

Tang San handed over the Penetrating Bone Needle to Meng Yiran, saying:

"This is a kind of needle I call Penetrating Bone Needle, five cun long, front slender and back thick, the weight doesn't reach a fifth of your throwing knives, but they should still be able to reach extremely far, with powerful penetration. Because the bulk is small, they're very easy to carry. Although this time was a coincidence, I've twice destroyed your chances to obtain a spirit beast. If you want, I can tell you about a kind of method for cultivating hidden weapons. When you go back you can try it once, it should be a good deal better than just practicing."

Meng Yiran looked blank,

"You would teach me?"

She still clearly remembered that previously grandpa still said he would remove one arm. As she raised her head to look at Tang San, she discovered Tang San's gaze was extremely clear, without any impurity. He clearly really wasn't false.

Tang San said:

"The path of hidden weapons is equally broad and deep, do you want to learn?"

Meng Yiran subconsciously nodded.

Tang San smiled slightly, saying:

"Just now I wasn't using my eyes but was still able to take aim, this is employing a kind of hidden weapon basic skill. It's called Sound Localization<sup>[4]</sup>. Relying on hearing to distinguish the target's location. Under bad lighting or perhaps unsuitable circumstances, unable to see the target's precise location with the eyes, hearing can give extremely important results. Practicing good Sound Localization, when shooting your hidden weapons you will not have any blind spot, and also possess even more covert nature.

Sound Localization was a basic hidden weapons exercise, not considered some secret. Immediately, Tang San didn't care about the Unrivalled Dragon Serpent husband and wife to the side, simply explaining this kind of exercise. Furthermore explaining a bit about the methods of practicing hidden weapons.

Just as he began, Meng Yiran still held some grudges in her heart, but as Tang San spoke, she nodded again and again, and in less than a cup of tea's worth of time, Tang San's words gave her an all new awareness of the world of hidden weapons.

## **Part 2**

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"..... you can practice these. The effect of hidden weapons assisting you is already very big."

Tang San used the briefest words to finish his explanation to Meng Yiran, he wasn't valuing the broom as his own<sup>[5]</sup>, and was anxious to

absorb the Man Faced Demon Spider spirit ring to go look for Xiao Wu.

By now his physical strength and spirit power had both recovered a while, he felt he should be able to absorb the spirit ring.

Dragon Duke and Serpent Grandmother all along stood to the side watching Tang San teach Meng Yiran without interrupting. Originally Dragon Duke had a somewhat gloomy expression due to what Zhao Wuji said, but right now on his face already hung a smile.

Meng Yiran gave Tang San a deep look,

“I won’t thank you.”

Tang San smiled faintly,

“I didn’t hope for it.”

Giggling, Meng Yiran laughed, she was very beautiful, and this time immediately changed like thawed by a spring wind,

“You’re only twelve? Indeed precocious. Come. Let big sister kiss you.”

While speaking, she suddenly moved closer to kiss Tang San on the cheek.

Tang San clearly had not anticipated Meng Yiran would “sneak attack” him, only feeling a burst of warmth on his face, for a moment not only his face blushed, even his ears were rendered scarlet.

Meng Yiran seeing his embarrassed appearance felt very carefree, firmly saying:

“You can’t have strange ideas, this was my bet with you. ‘If you agree to a bet you must accept to lose’, I wouldn’t refuse to acknowledge it. Well, we’re leaving. You also hurry and absorb that spirit ring, if I come across you stirring up trouble again next time I’m hunting a spirit beast, humph humph.”

While speaking, she still gestured with her fist at Tang San.

Of course, this clearly didn’t hold any force behind it.

Dragon Duke and Serpent Grandmother smiled at each other, again nodding to Zhao Wuji, with this brought their granddaughter to soar away, they still had to immediately find their granddaughter another spirit beast, then extremely quickly leave this place. They could not guard against the threat of the Titan Giant Ape.

Oscar moved closer to Tang San's side smiling mischievously,

"San-er<sup>[6]</sup>, pleasurable or not?"

Tang San somewhat speechless glared at him,

"What pleasurable? Get me another Recovery Sausage."

Oscar laughed,

"I your father have a big sausage."

With his vulgar spirit incantation, he directly handed over a sausage to Tang San.

Turning towards the Man Faced Demon Spider's corpse, by now, dense purple light had already condensed above the corpse, just the most ideal time to absorb it. Looking at it, Tang San's previously somewhat relaxed expression once again tightened, he immediately remembered: Xiao Wu still waited for his help.

Eating the sausage, He walked over and sat by the side of the Man Faced Demon Spider,

"I will trouble everyone."

Zhao Wuji gave Tang San a nod, waving his hand, the students crowded around with Tang San in the middle, carefully guarding. With their protection, Tang San no longer needed to worry about common spirit beasts threatening him. He was finally able to wholeheartedly absorb the formidable spirit ring before him.

Raising his right hand, the blue light produced by the Blue Silver Grass Spirit gradually appeared in Tang San's palm. Taking a deep breath, Tang San summoned the Man Faced Demon Spider's spirit ring.

The purple light like it had been waiting for a long time and finally found an opening, just starting to feel Tang San's spirit, immediately like a hundred rivers flowing into the sea rushed towards Tang San.

Watching the dark purple light in a moment about to envelop Tang San's body, Zhao Wuji also couldn't help but be shocked. Such strong spirit power fluctuations, this Man Faced Demon Spider had after all cultivated for how many years?

Tang San as the person involved felt it even more clearly. He only sensed a tremendous heat flow towards him and abruptly into him, still without waiting for his reaction, that boiling like a raging flame began to burn his body.

The Man Faced Demon Spider in itself was certainly tyrannical, and the spirit ring it formed was ruthless. Intense energy entered within Tang San and began to break and remold his body.

Although the energy contained within the spirit ring wasn't conscious, it still basically wasn't something Tang San's consciousness could control.

Under the powerful spirit power fluctuations, Tang San only felt like his body was bursting open. The violent pain immediately made him belch up a mouthful of blood.

Everyone surrounding him were simultaneously startled, they had also absorbed spirit rings, but it was still the first time they came across anything like this.

Zhao Wuji said in a low voice:

"This Man Faced Demon Spider's spirit ring is excessively tyrannical. Wanting to absorb it isn't easy. Right now he can only trust himself, when absorbing the spirit ring he can't take support from any outside force, otherwise it will only bring about the reverse effect. Right now we can only believe in Tang San being able to receive it and return to us."

What Zhao Wuji didn't say was, the more difficult a spirit ring was to absorb, the greater the resulting effect would be. After all if its attached energy was tremendous, the generated spirit ability would

naturally also be extremely awesome.

.....

Meng Shu and Chao Tian-Xiang brought Meng Yiran towards the outskirts of the Star Dou Great Forest.

Chao Tian-Xiang continuously watched her granddaughter, ever since leaving the Shrek Academy party, Meng Yiran had all along bowed her head in silence, apparently reflecting on something.

“Yiran. What are you thinking about?”

Chao Tian-Xiang asked.

Meng Yiran was roused from her chain of thought by her grandmother’s voice,

“I was thinking about what Tang San said. Grandma, you say whether I should later use that Penetrating Bone Needle?”

Chao Tian-Xiang smiled, saying:

“If you feel good with it, use it. Although that needle’s appearance is somewhat unusual, finding people to make it isn’t strenuous. It’s still my first time seeing such a long needle, unexpectedly it’s five cun.”

Dragon Duke Meng Shu suddenly said.

“That kid Tang San really isn’t bad, not only talented, but also without a bit of arrogance, he’s a rare talented person. It’s a pity he didn’t agree to join our clan, otherwise, before reaching twenty, he would inevitable be able to bring the clan to new heights.”

Chao Tian-Xiang sighed lightly, saying:

“A golden carp within a pond, on meeting storms becomes a dragon<sup>[7]</sup>. It’s not only Tang San, I saw those several children were all very outstanding. I truly don’t know from where Zhao Wuji found these outstandingly gifted children. I heard Zhao Wuji say, they appeared to be from some Shrek Academy, how come I haven’t heard the name of this academy?”

Meng Shu said:

“That’s all unimportant. Although the others looked to be pretty good, but I feel that compared to Tang San they are still somewhat lacking. Yiran, what did you think about Tang San?”

Meng Yiran was distracted a moment, a light flashing in her eyes. Finally she couldn’t help but say:

“He’s just a mature child.”

Recalling Tang San’s solemn face, she couldn’t help but add,

“He really didn’t seem only twelve years old.”

Meng Shu smiling said:

“I’m asking what you think about him.”

Meng Yiran was already sixteen, just the age of first awakening of love and on her own extremely acute, somewhat understood the vague meaning in grandpa’s words.

“Grandpa. Aren’t you trying to coerce mismatched mandarin ducks<sup>[8]</sup>? I’m three years older than him, how would it be possible?”

She had just had her sixteenth birthday, and indeed was three years older than Tang San.

Meng Shu laughed,

“Age is no problem, ‘woman three years older, holds a golden brick’<sup>[9]</sup>.”

Meng Yiran’s charming face blushed,

“Grandpa, you.....”

Meng Shu said:

“What? You’re not willing? Still think his appearance is too ordinary?”

Meng Yiran snorted, saying:

“It goes without saying he’s ordinary. From his clothes it can also be seen he isn’t the child of some famous family. I truly don’t understand, why when he uses a crippled spirit like Blue Silver



Grass his cultivation speed is still so fast.”

Meng Shu scowled,

“Girl. When did you become a person who judges by appearance? That child Tang San cannot be as simple as you say. How can you know he doesn’t come from a prestigious house? Blue Silver Grass? Have you ever seen a Spirit Master that could cultivate Blue Silver Grass above thirtieth rank? Furthermore what he said about hidden weapons, these added together are enough to prove this child is out of the ordinary.”

Meng Yiran seeing grandpa become somewhat angry, couldn’t help but stick out her tongue,

“Don’t get angry grandpa, let’s speak of this matter again later. We can’t say whether we’ll meet him again in the future.”

Meng Shu sighed softly,

“The younger generations will do all right on their own. In your own matters make your own decisions. Only, grandpa’s old eyes aren’t decorations. In a person’s life, one has only one opportunity, possibly extremely brief, if one is unable to grab it, it will be lost at once.”

Chao Tian-Xiang gripped Meng Shu’s hand,

“All right. Old codger, don’t say it so gravely, first helping Yiran find a suitable third spirit ring is most important. Other matters can be spoken of again later. Once we’ve returned, we will first ask around about this Shrek Academy.”

.....

## **Part 3**

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The Shrek Academy group’s gazes had right now all become stares. Surrounded by everyone, sitting in the middle with legs crossed Tang San already looked in bad shape, his entire person enveloped within a layer of light red mist.

The red within the mist was not at all the light of spirit power, but Tang San's blood.

Not long before, along with violent spirit power fluctuations over his body, Tang San's skin had begun to overflow with a layer of fine drops of blood. Along with spirit power rising into the air, it became this kind of light red mist.

Tang San's brows were tightly locked, lips closed tightly, his body continuously convulsing violently. Adding to the drops of blood leaking through his skin, it was obvious that he was currently in severe pain.

Within the mist, from time to time transmitted the sound of bones snapping. Each time gave everyone around him a kind of hair raising feeling, but that third spirit ring that should emerge following absorption had all along not showed its true nature, this proved Tang San still could not completely absorb the Man Faced Demon Spider's spirit ring.

Dai Mubai worried asked Zhao Wuji in a low voice:

"Teacher Zhao, if it goes on I'm afraid Tang San will be in danger."

Zhao Wuji's brows were equally tight,

"I know, but, right now we even more can't interrupt him, otherwise, the result would be even more severe. Right now we can only watch his willpower. He should be capable of absorbing the energy this spirit ring bestows. Only his body's condition isn't at all optimal, and this Man Faced Demon Spider spirit ring's energy is in itself excessively ruthless. Under these kinds of circumstances, I hope Tang San is able to surmount the mountain pass, otherwise....."

The pain which Tang San currently endured only he knew. From the energy of the Man Faced Demon Spider's spirit ring, he felt his whole body seemingly cut by countless sharp blades, there was nowhere his internal organs weren't hurting, the tyrannical energy unceasingly tore apart his body, constantly putting him in extreme pain.

In fact, what Zhao Wuji said had a mistake. Because the Man Faced Demon Spider was so rare, even if it was Grandmaster, it would still

have been very difficult to determine its cultivation interval. The largest spirit power which a Spirit Master was able to absorb for the third spirit ring was on the one thousand seven hundred years level, reaching the fourth spirit ring they were able to absorb spirit rings around five thousand years of cultivation. The fifth spirit ring upper absorption limit was twelve thousand years or so, the sixth spirit ring absorption limit was twenty thousand years. The seventh spirit ring within thirty thousand years to fifty thousand years, determined by different Spirit Masters' different attributes. Reaching the eighth spirit ring, it was possible to absorb the spirit ring of a spirit beast over fifty thousand years. Only the final ninth spirit ring had the possibility of absorbing a hundred thousand year spirit ring. Of course, among known Spirit masters, nobody had been able to absorb a hundred thousand year spirit beast for their last spirit ring.

This Man Faced Demon Spider Tang San killed, had actually already surpassed two thousand years. Although it was just recently, it still already exceeded the limit of what Tang San could absorb for his third spirit ring. This was also the most significant reason why although Grandmaster knew the enormous benefit of the Man Faced Demon Spider to Blue Silver Grass, he did not approve of him looking for this kind of spirit ring.

In the fight, Tang San simply estimated the Man Faced Demon Spider's actual strength, but he overlooked one point: that Man Faced Demon Spider had after all already been injured by Dragon Duke Meng Shu. With the kind of strength Meng Shu had, the injuries he gave the Man Faced Demon Spider would naturally substantially influence its strength.

Tang San's circumstances were greatly different from the majority of Spirit Masters. Because he had dual spirits, in addition to also cultivating Mysterious Heaven Skill recorded in Mysterious Heaven Treasure Record, his body's resilience was much better than an ordinary person's. Ordinarily, if it was some common spirit beast, absorbing a two thousand year or so for his third spirit ring was already without too much of an issue, after all, that was where his body exhibited its advantage.

But this Man Faced Demon Spider couldn't be some ordinary spirit

beast, its own ruthlessness and power made the spirit ring also become extremely tyrannical, adding to Tang San's body not being in optimal condition, he immediately sunk into huge crisis.

If Tang San's circumstances could be calculated, then, he could in the end only have one result. His body would be unable to bear the shock of the Man Faced Demon Spider's energy, bursting and dying. After all, that energy already exceeded the scope of what he could absorb.

But, some things couldn't be calculated. For example, willpower and conviction.

As his willpower alone reached a certain resolute degree, or perhaps by possessing a matchless stubborn conviction, frequently miracles would appear.

The current Tang San, although enduring incomparable pain, in the depths of his heart possessed an extremely stubborn conviction: that was to save Xiao Wu.

Relying on this conviction, he unyieldingly withstood wave after wave of pain. Even if blood already seeped out over his body, he still withstood the tyrannical energy of the Man Faced Demon Spider spirit ring.

From a certain point of view, Xiao Wu being snatched by the Titan Giant Ape on the contrary helped Tang San. A spirit ring surpassing the absorption limit would admittedly produce a huge crisis, but when successful, the benefits would be equally tremendous.

The tyrannical energy fluctuations unceasingly grew stronger, the blood mist around Tang San's body also became more and more distinct. Within the blood mist, even a faint fishy smell seeped out, unknown whether it was impurities within Tang San's body or the Man Faced Demon Spider's poison.

While everyone were worried like cats on a hot tin roof, suddenly, the echo of a soft footstep grabbed Zhao Wuji's attention.

"Who?"

Zhao Wuji's ice cold gaze turned to look in that direction, spirit power suddenly amassing, this was already Tang San's most crucial moment, he couldn't let any person or maybe spirit beast disturb him.

"Teacher Zhao."

A slender silhouette ran out of the forest. Seeing her, not just Zhao Wuji paused, the others also couldn't help staring blankly, suddenly coming running out of the forest, unexpectedly was Xiao Wu.

Right now Xiao Wu cut a somewhat sorry figure, her clothes were greatly damaged, the orderly scorpion braid on her head had also become disheveled, but her complexion was extremely healthy, compared to before apparently a bit more mature.

"Xiao Wu, you didn't die?"

Just as Oscar said this he became aware that his words were somewhat unpleasant.

Xiao Wu snapped:

"Did you hope I would die? What is this? This mist....., Heavens, what's happened to little San?"

Seeing Tang San within the light red mist, Xiao Wu's heart immediately tightened, rushing over.

She had been carried here by the Titan Giant Ape. Although the area of Star Dou Great Forest was extensive, if the forest king Titan Giant Ape wanted to find the Shrek Academy party here it was hardly difficult, all spirit beasts could be its eyes. After Xiao Wu was delivered to the vicinity, the Titan Giant Ape just quietly left.

"Don't disturb him, he's absorbing the third spirit ring."

Zhao Wuji hurriedly stopped Xiao Wu.

Xiao Wu involuntarily cried out:

"But, how could absorbing the third spirit ring become like this?"

Turning her head to look at the Man Faced Demon Spider's corpse

to the side, she more or less understood,

“It’s a Man Faced Demon Spider. Not good, this Man Faced Demon Spider’s cultivation age exceeds two thousand years, Grandmaster said, a Spirit Master’s third spirit ring limit was one thousand seven hundred sixty years, little San he…….”

Zhao Wuji stared blankly,

“How do you know this Man Faced Demon Spider has cultivated two thousand years?”

Xiao Wu at this became aware of what she let slip,

“The Man Faced Demon Spider’s cultivation will be seen from the length of its legs. You see, this Man Faced Demon Spider’s legs already surpass three metres, this is the mark of cultivation age exceeding two thousand years. Don’t tell me you all didn’t know thousand year spirit beast cultivation will engender some clear change with each millennium passed? Like hundred year spirit beasts will change with each cultivated century, and like ten thousand year spirit beasts will change according ten thousand years?”

Zhao Wuji somewhat impressed said:

“I truly didn’t understand this clearly. I didn’t expect you to have so much knowledge of spirit beasts.”

Xiao Wu said:

“These are all taught by Grandmaster.”

Covering for the mistakes of her mouth by shifting them to the most knowledgeable in spirits Grandmaster clearly was a very good method. As expected, hearing her words, everyone’s doubts eased.

Zhao Wuji said with a wry smile:

“Little San already started absorbing this spirit ring. Right now there’s no chance to stop. We can only hope for him to withstand the shock of the energy in the spirit ring, enduring this mountain pass. Oh right, Xiao Wu, how did you escape the Titan Giant Ape’s demon

hand? Tell us first what happened?”

She couldn't tell everyone that it was because the Titan Giant Ape Er Ming sensed her smell that it specially came to carry her, before returning Xiao Wu naturally had thought out what to say. Worriedly looking at Tang San before her she explained:

“I also don't know what it was all about, that Titan Giant Ape grabbed me and ran into the forest. Before running very far it seemed a cow like roar came through from one direction, that Titan Giant Ape appeared very nervous. Looking at me, it threw me aside at once. Afterwards it ran off.”

“A cow roar? What cow could make a Titan Giant Ape nervous? Afterwards?”

Zhao Wuji couldn't help but scowl.

In Xiao Wu's eyes displayed a fearful light,

“As that Titan Giant Ape dumped me, before leaving it made a howl. I only felt a sky spinning and earth revolving dizziness pass, once I woke up, it was already nowhere to be seen. The scene at that time was terrifying. All around were at least ten spirit beasts unconscious from the shock, the weak were directly shocked so they bled out of the nose and mouth and died. I don't know whether to say my luck was good or bad, I suddenly discovered, my spirit power had also broken through the thirtieth rank.”

Zhao Wuji was alarmed,

“What? You already reached thirtieth rank? Who is older of you and Tang San?”

Xiao Wu said:

“I'm some months younger than him.”

Zhao Wuji was speechless a spell, the record Tang San had just now set, had already been altered. However, Xiao Wu's next words widened his eyes even more.

Xiao Wu said:

“At that time I was very frightened, perhaps the reason my spirit power increased was because the external excitement was too large. I happened to discover a comparatively suitable for me thousand year spirit beast that had fainted, so I killed it to obtain my third spirit ring.”

“That as well?”

Fatty stared at Xiao Wu, showing an expression like a blind cat at a dead mouse.

Xiao Wu displayed an expression of lingering trepidation,

“Consider my fate great, I basically believed I would die. So that none of the surrounding spirit beasts would wake up to attack, I had no choice but to jolt the surrounding spirit beasts to death. After absorbing the third spirit ring my physical strength recovered. Then I just walked in the direction I remembered coming from, before hearing voices from this side and coming over to look, finally finding you.”

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## Notes

1. Idiom: There's always someone better than you.
2. “Three”, which is also the san in Tang San.
3. 5寸 = 16.7 cm
4. (听声辨位) “Hearing Sound Distinguishing Location”
5. Idiom: Having sentimental attachment.
6. Oscar uses (儿), a diminutive suffix, in this case meaning something like “son”.
7. This one is a pain to translate. It's close to a line from a poem in the famous 1989 comic by Ma Wing-Shing (马荣成/馬榮成) Feng Yun/Fung Wan “Wind and Cloud” (风云/風雲) also variously adapted as “The Storm Riders”. The full poem is (金鳞岂是池中物, 一遇风云便化龙; 九霄龙吟惊天变, 风云际会潜水游), which a daring person might butcher by translating as A golden carp within a pond, meeting storms (wind and cloud) thus becomes a dragon; Nine heavenly dragons' cry change the sky, at storm's edge will dive and swim



What confuses the issue somewhat is that here “golden carp” (金鳞) is misspelled as the homonym “golden (female) unicorn” (金麟) which differ only in one radical, and by a quick google seems to be a common typo. Further confusing the issue is that the top hits on a google search will refer to the erotic web novel by Monkey by the same name (金麟岂是池中物) about a street hoodlum growing up to become a business tycoon. In any case, I can’t find an explanation of it and won’t be bothered reading the comic to figure it out, so you get a best fit translation.

8. Idiom: Misarranging matches through mistaken identification of couples. Mandarin ducks are a common symbol for lovers - as are most birds in pairs.
9. This rhyme (nu da san, bao jin zhuan 女大三,抱金砖) is part of a series of how various age differences in couples improves married life. Rhymes don’t translate well to English.

# 035 – Tang San's Tyrannical Third Spirit Ability

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## Part 1

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Although Xiao Wu's excuse had a few loopholes, she had come back alive. Who would have thought she and the Titan Giant Ape had a relationship of some sort? Everyone subconsciously chose to believe her.

Zhao Wuji nodded and said:

"As long as you're back. After you were taken, little San was so worried his eyes turned all red. He asked for a mushroom sausage from Oscar and went after you immediately."

He briefly summarized everything that happened while Oscar passed a Recovery Sausage to Xiao Wu.

Listening to Zhao Wuji, Xiao Wu's eyes reddened. Tears fell like a broken string of pearls, rolling down her cheeks. Looking at Tang San enveloped in a bloody mist, she murmured: "Ge, please don't get hurt. It's all my fault. It's all my fault I made you worried. You have to persevere through this. As long as you wake up, I would do anything."

Xiao Wu felt truly remorseful. A moment of carelessness caused her to forget to restrain her aura, causing Er Ming to find her and come to meet her. If she didn't get kidnapped by Er Ming, nothing after would have happened, and Tang San wouldn't absorb a spirit ring in such a condition.

But it was too late to say anything, and they could only hope that Tang San's resolve was firm enough to help him pass this crisis.

At the moment, in Tang San's consciousness there was only one sentence. Xiao Wu, I will go save you. With this thought, no matter

how excruciating the pain, he always bitterly withstood it, not letting his mind collapse first. In this life and death situation, Tang San's childhood cultivations were starting to show its use. His body was already stronger than people his age, and Mysterious Heaven Skill was even more a hundred percent toughness focused orthodox sect internal strength.

If the Man Faced Demon Spider's spirit ring had a consciousness, it would discover that its violent power would almost break through Tang San's body every time, but his body would always, at the last moment, block it back with sheer tenacity.

And each time he warded the energy off, Tang San would absorb a tiny bit of the energy in the spirit ring. Under this slow growth, the ruthless energy was constantly weakening.

Tang San now had to face the most crucial problem: after he absorbed the spirit ring's energy, how could he merge it with his body, his Mysterious Heaven Skill, and his spirit Blue Silver Grass.

Though Blue Silver Grass itself was weak, it wasn't likely to repel any other source of energy, but the energy in the Man Faced Demon Spider's spirit ring was too tyrannical, as to make even the Blue Silver Grass spirit unwilling to absorb it.

Fortunately, when he started absorbing the spirit ring, he ate another one of Oscar's Recovery Sausages, or else his stamina would be the first to fail.

Tang San's bones started to make concentrated cracking sounds. This not quite loud sound made everyone's hairs rise, as if Tang San's body could rupture at any second.

From the pores, the blood that oozed out slowly gained another layer of gray. With the absorption of the spirit ring, the energy contained started a very forceful process of cleansing Tang San's body. The resulting pain was unimaginable.

Finally, with Tang San's unyielding willpower, all the energy in his body started to give in, starting the process of merging.

The fine beads of blood stopped oozing. Tang San's furrowed brows

smoothed out. A dim layer of blue light started to creep out of his body.

Zhao Wuji was elated:

“He succeeded. The most dangerous moment has passed. Now is the process of spirit power transforming. Tang San really is worthy of being called a creator of miracles. Even a two thousand year old Man Faced Demon Spider’s spirit ring was absorbed by him. The Unrivaled Dragon Serpent should really feel lucky: if their granddaughter absorbed this spirit ring, she would probably have burst by now.”

Along with the release of the blue glow, Blue Silver Grass started slowly growing around Tang San. The Blue Silver Grass’s size hadn’t changed much. Compared to before, it had actually become slightly thinner. Originally dark blue, it has also changed into purplish blue. That was a merged color, not showing in the form of patterns anymore.

The Blue Silver Grass was now about two fingers thick. The biggest difference from before was its luster, it looked as if the grass had been coated with a glaze.

Zhao Wuji had everyone back up a bit. He knew, since Tang San couldn’t fully control the newly gained power, so some spirit power could overflow. In Tang San’s current state, he would be surprised if Tang San could control the energy.

“AH——”

Just when everyone thought nothing else would happen, suddenly, Tang San’s brows furrowed up again. A scream escaped his mouth, his cross legged body starting to convulse violently. His chest suddenly stood out, his entire upper body arcing into the air, the display terrifying.

“Ge——”

Xiao Wu cried out quickly, tears streaming from her eyes. Her nails were already cutting into her palm, but she didn’t even notice.

Wuji was also surprised. What was wrong? Just when everyone was startled, suddenly, accompanying the sound of splitting cloth, the clothes on Tang San's back suddenly tore open. Standing behind him, Dai Mubai clearly saw, next to Tang San's backbone, on either side were eight fist sized bulges.

What was this? With Dai Mubai pointing it out, everyone discovered the change on Tang San's back. Tang San currently looked like he was withstanding immense pain. Blood started oozing out of his skin again, his entire body convulsing.

Immediately afterward, the eight bulges suddenly ruptured. The strange thing was, Tang San's skin didn't peel back. Eight fist sized dark purple objects came out of the nubs, growing with an astonishing speed.

When the eight bulges broke and grew the dark purple objects, Tang San's entire body became relaxed, his expression smoothing out, but his body still convulsing.

Under everyone's surprised gaze, the dark purple objects grew over a meter in the blink of an eye, and were still extending with frightening speed. When its length went past 1.5 meters, the end grew a joint-like thing, and the dark purple once again extended from the joint in another direction.

"This, this is....."

The eight dark purple objects continued to grow until they reached three meters. Completely shining purple, they looked extremely smooth. They were the thickest near Tang San's back, tapering until they filed into a sharp points at the end.

"Aren't these the legs of the Man Faced Demon Spider?"

Looking at Tang San, and looking at the corpse of the Man Faced Demon Spider, everyone discovered that the objects that grew out of Tang San's back looked very similar to the Man Faced Demon Spider's legs. Only, they were slightly thinner overall and looked more lustrous, accompanied by a faint sweet fragrance.

Zhao Wuji had personally seen many Spirit Masters absorb spirit

rings, but this was still the first time he had seen such a scene, for a moment he couldn't help but lose the ability to judge.

The bizarre scene still hadn't finished. As those eight spider legs on Tang San's back extended behind him, they began to slightly move rhythmically, the four lower spider legs slowly pierced the ground, unexpectedly lifting Tang San sitting crosslegged on the ground, raising him into the air.

Tang San right now, like they were eight three metre long arms, looked extremely strange.

Tang San's body finally no longer convulsed, the clothes he wore were already completely shredded. Gradually, the previously spreading Blue Silver Grass slowly gathered back together, instead twisting around his body, bundling him in what resembled a large cocoon, with only the spider legs still moving slowly on the outside.

The Shrek Academy group basically did not understand how this would happen, to them, right now all they could do was wait. Faintly within, they could only hear the sound of snapping bones echo from the cocoon. As for what was actually happening to Tang San, nobody could say.

Ma Hongjun couldn't help but say:

"Tang San wouldn't change into a big spider, right?"

Xiao Wu ferociously glared at him,

"Impossible. How would little San become a spider, these circumstances are certainly just because of some variation from absorbing the spirit ring. He definitely won't be in trouble."

Even Xiao Wu didn't know if she was reassuring the others or reassuring herself, waiting was currently all they could do.

But, who could still have anticipated that their wait this time would be so long.

When Oscar absorbed the spirit ring, from beginning to end only took a fraction of an hour to complete, but after Tang San was

wrapped up in Blue Silver Grass, it seemed like time congealed, continuously without any news.

One double hour passed, two double hours passed, the color of the dark gradually went from dark to bright, and once more travelling from bright and entering darkness. A whole twelve double hour of waiting made everyone utterly exhausted. But who dared be careless, they could only wait.

The one thing making them feel relieved was that the eight spider legs that had grown on Tang San's back moved constantly, showing traces of life.

At Zhao Wuji's orders, everyone took turns to rest. Only Xiao Wu said anything to refuse, continuously keeping watch at Tang San's side. In her heart she silently prayed, praying Tang San must pass through this crisis safe and sound.

“En——”

A low groaning sound roused Xiao Wu's already somewhat fuzzy consciousness, she hastily raised her head to look.

The slender Blue Silver Grass slowly came undone, one by one rolling outward, gradually revealing their owner within.

Tang San's body was covered by a dark brown layer, and as Blue Silver Grass dispersed, this dark brown substance gradually came off his body like it was fruit peel, revealing the body inside.

As Xiao Wu looked once again at Tang San, her charming face couldn't help but blush bashfully, Tang San currently didn't wear a strand, his whole body completely naked. The muscles on his body had unexpectedly become extremely distinct, and although they weren't bulging exaggeratedly, it gave off a feeling of brimming with strength. Under the bronze colored skin there was a faint purple light haze moving around. Entirely floating in the air, the previously crossed legs had already unfolded, limbs sagging naturally, the entire person appearing to be permeated with a kind of demonic feeling.

## Part 2

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In Tang San's disheveled black hair, several locks were bright purple, that purple hair in itself seemed to emit a similar light, making Xiao Wu see unusually clearly.

The previous groaning was emitted by Tang San, right now, both his eyes just slowly opened, a completely bewildered expression within his eyes.

Tang San himself also didn't know what had happened, he only continuously suppressed and endured extreme pain. The conviction to save Xiao Wu all along supported his willpower. As the extremely violent pain suddenly disappeared, a kind of difficult to describe relaxing pleasure spread throughout his whole body in a moment.

The pain could be endured, but the instant the relaxing pleasure arrived after the extreme pain, Tang San's entire person in the end sunk into a deep sleep. As he once again recovered consciousness, it was the scene Xiao Wu had just witnessed.

The scene before him was hazy, like it was shrouded in a layer of white cotton. Various kinds of senses gradually returned to the body, following his consciousness gradually awakening, the scenery before Tang San gradually became clear.

His body was indescribably comfortable, like every single cell within the body was cheering excitedly, only somewhat itchy, rather like something was stretching out from his back. He was able to feel the moistness of the earth, and the brush of air surrounding him, but Tang San vaguely discovered, it seemed to have somehow become different.

By now the others had also taken note of Tang San's changes. Zhu Zhuqing and Ning Rongrong saw his naked body and hurriedly bashfully turned away, not daring to look again. Although Xiao Wu was equally bashful, Tang San's safety was even more important to her, resisting the shyness in her heart, she still earnestly gazed at Tang San.

Two yellow and one purple, three spirit rings revolved around Tang



San moving rhythmically up and down his body, that purple spirit ring looked exceedingly clear, the purple shining within, setting off Tang San's naked body extremely clearly. But at Tang San's side all the Blue Silver Grass already quietly faded away, only those eight three metre long enormous spider legs on his back still remained.

“Ge——”

Xiao Wu couldn't help but softly call out.

The sudden voice made Tang San start. This voice was really too familiar to him, also one he longed for, subconsciously looking in the direction of the voice, just right to see Xiao Wu looking up at him.

Tang San trembled fiercely once, at once wanting to leap at Xiao Wu, but, right now his body supported by four spider legs was floating in midair. Those spider legs themselves were part of his body, following his desire to move, the spider legs naturally accepted, pulling out from the ground.

Tang San himself wasn't clear on the changes of his body, and he immediately entirely lost his balance, dropping from midair.

“Careful.”

Xiao Wu cried out in alarm, extending both arms to catch Tang San's body. Fortunately her strength was good, the impulse of Tang San falling from two metres in the air couldn't be considered too great, and he was just caught well by Xiao Wu.

The eight spider legs simultaneously rose to his back, although they looked monstrous, they didn't at all affect Tang San's mobility.

A familiar scent reaching his nose, Tang San practically at once moved his arms to embrace Xiao Wu,

“I, I'm not dreaming? Xiao Wu, it's really you?”

Xiao Wu held Tang San just as tightly, already sobbing wordlessly.

Currently, Tang San's haziness from just awakening was already clearing. He was only too familiar with Xiao Wu's scent, adding the warmth reaching him from the soft delicate body in his arms, he

knew that this was all real, Xiao Wu had returned, she had returned.

“Silly, don’t cry, coming back is all well, coming back is all well.”

Lightly patting Xiao Wu’s back, Tang San also couldn’t stop his eyes from misting up. All his worries melted away at this moment, the feeling of again seeing Xiao Wu after what felt like a lifetime made his entire body tremble. Compared to Xiao Wu, just now obtaining the third spirit ring counted as nothing, in his heart, nothing was more important than Xiao Wu’s life.

“Ge, it’s all my fault, making you worry.”

Xiao Wu said, choking with sobs.

Tang San shook his head,

“Idiot, it was my fault, I who lacked ability, didn’t protect you properly.”

“Cough cough”

Coughing sounds to the side made the simultaneously sad and happy pair wake up.

The coughing was from Dai Mubai,

“Little San, although I admit, your means are very good, but, aren’t you at least putting on pants? After all there are still other girls present.”

Tang San looked blank a moment, subconsciously looking at his body, at this discovering that unexpectedly he wasn’t wearing even a strip of cloth.

Xiao Wu right now also came to herself, her charming face immediately blushing shyly. Hurriedly closing her eyes, but still reluctant to part with little San’s hug, merely buried her head in his chest unwilling to lift it.

“This……, how would I become like this? Who took off my clothes?”

Tang San stupidly asked.

Oscar made his way over from the side,

“Nobody took off your clothes, who knows how they ceased to be?”

Tang San felt at his waist, fortunately, Twenty Four Moonlit Bridges was still there, at once hurriedly softly pushing away Xiao Wu, he rapidly took out a set of clothes to put on.

Wearing trousers still went well, but putting on his jacket was problematic. Tang San now discovered the unusual condition on his back. As he looked behind him at the eight pointy spider legs sprouting on his back, he couldn't help but stare blankly.

Fatty Ma Hongjun with great understanding said:

“Don't ask us why it would be like this, none of us knows. This happened in the process of absorbing that Man Faced Demon Spider's spirit ring. Tang San, didn't that spirit ring cause variation for you?”

By now Tang San had at least put on trousers, so Ning Rongrong and Zhu Zhuqing also turned back around. After waiting for one day and one night, Tang San was now at last out of danger, but the change in his body was nevertheless so monstrous, it couldn't help but pique everyone's interest. Even Zhao Wuji was no exception.

“Let me sense myself at once.”

Tang San standing there slowly closed his eyes.

Generally speaking, Spirit Masters after absorbing a spirit ring were able to sense what new spirit ability they possessed. Just like how Oscar when he had absorbed the third spirit ring immediately knew his third sausage spirit incantation.

The pain Tang San endured in absorbing the spirit ring had been too great, to the extent that he had spent the latter half of the absorption changing process unconscious. Right now he could only search his soul to sense everything the third spirit ring had provided him.

Tang San's meditation went on for no less than half a double hour. As he once again opened his eyes, his expression was somewhat

strange.

“Well?”

Xiao Wu anxiously asked.

Tang San puzzled said:

“There should be no problem. The spirit ring wouldn’t vary. Teacher once said, only a spirit varies, different spirits absorbing the same spirit ring would still give different results. I already obtained an ability from absorbing the Man Faced Demon Spider’s spirit ring. Everything is very ordinary. Only, I can’t explain these eight spider legs on my back.”

“Aiyou!”

A miserable shriek suddenly erupted, everyone jumped with fright, believing it was a spirit beast attack, immediately on alert as they looked in the direction the scream came from, discovering no warning signs.

Emitting the shriek was Ma Hongjun, his right hand tightly holding his left hand, a painful expression on his face. His left hand was already becoming purple, furthermore the skin appeared damaged, with black liquid flowing down, a black qi rapidly spreading up his arm.

“Not good, he’s poisoned. Oscar, quickly.”

Zhao Wuji shouted in a deep voice, in one stride reaching Ma Hongjun’s side, one palm directly slapping his shoulder, using his vigorous spirit power to help him suppress the poison invading his body.

“I your father have a small sausage.”

A dried small sausage was promptly delivered to Fatty’s mouth. At this everyone breathed out.

Unfortunately, their relaxation didn’t continue for too long.

## **Part 3**

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With the small sausage in his belly, the detoxifying effect showed in a moment, that flow of black qi following the arm upwards immediately stopped spreading, reversing direction. But, this only continued for a very brief time, that black qi had not even passed Fatty's shoulder before it suddenly stopped decreasing, a moment later it unexpectedly once again spread upwards.

Oscar's complexion changed greatly,

"Not good, my little sausage is unable to break up this poison, too fierce. Fatty, how did you manage to get poisoned?"

Big drops of sweat continuously rolled off Ma Hongjun's forehead, clearly he was enduring enormous pain. Even though he had Zhao Wuji's assistance, the resisting effect of the two's spirit power wasn't great enough, the black qi was still spreading, and Fatty's palm was even more already beginning to fester.

From Fatty's scream up till now, only a short period of time had passed, that's all. That poison's severity made everyone turn pale with alarm.

Fatty while enduring the enormous pain with clenched teeth, with difficulty said:

"I was curious to touch one of the spider legs on Tang San's back and became like this. Tang San, those spider legs of yours are poisonous."

Tang San startled, light flashing in his mind, suddenly recalling something,

"Fatty don't move. Everyone get out of the way, do not under any circumstances again touch the points of my spider legs."

While speaking, he came before Fatty with one big stride, in spite of Fatty's palm already festering, he directly lifted the hand to hold it up. Right now, Tang San's palm in a moment changed into jade color.

A bizarre scene appeared, even Oscar's small sausage was unable to remove the poison, but after Tang San's palm held Fatty's hand, it unexpectedly rapidly withdrew along its former path, dull dark purple

liquid continuously flowing into Tang San's palm and disappearing unseen.

In only the time of several breaths, Fatty's arm had already recovered to normal, the wound on the palm also beginning to disseminate bright red blood.

"What is after all going on here?"

Apart from Tang San this question simultaneously appeared in everyone's hearts.

Seeing that Fatty was out of danger, Tang San also breathed out. He knew everyone had numerous questions, but was in no hurry to explain. After releasing Fatty's hand, with quick steps he arrived before that already dead Man Faced Demon Spider, lifting his hand to press on it.

The Man Faced Demon Spider's corpse had by now already become completely gray, lacking any life force. Tang San only use a minute amount of spirit power, at once causing a concentrated series of cracking sounds. That Man Faced Demon Spider's corpse unexpectedly shattered into fragments.

"I understand."

Combined with his sense from the previous meditation, Tang San finally roughly understood the sequence of events.

"From now on, no one come into contact with the spider legs on my back, these spider legs contain the Man Faced Demon Spider's poison. When I absorbed the spirit ring, for some reason, I also completely absorbed the Man Faced Demon Spider's poison within my body. Why these circumstances would be like this perhaps we can only see if Grandmaster can clearly understand. Its most expert spiderweb and my Blue Silver Grass should also based on the Man Faced Demon Spider's spirit ring after mixing produce a certain variation. As for the actual degree of variation, I can only return to slowly experiment. All my attributes received a not inconsiderable upgrade, especially the two areas physical strength and speed. Spirit power also increased greatly, to my senses it's seemingly even

more than thirty first rank.”

Zhao Wuji asked:

“Then what’s going on with these spider legs on your back?”

Tang San said with a wry smile:

“Like with absorbing all the Man Faced Demon Spider’s poison, I also don’t know why something like this would occur. Those spider legs do not appear related to my absorbing the spirit ring. I’m able to control their movement, if only somewhat awkwardly.”

Dai Mubai said:

“Then can you withdraw them? You can’t be like this always. People would consider you a monster.”

Tang San helplessly said:

“Aren’t we all monsters? I’ll try.”

While speaking, he condensed his spirit power and transmitted it to his spine. Issuing an order to those eight spider legs to recall.

A bizarre scene appeared, those spreading open three metres long spider legs slowly folded, bending twice to fit closely together, afterwards bit by bit merging into Tang San’s body.

Tang San only felt some tickling on his back, nothing worth mentioning. During this process, the three spirit rings over his body all flared brightly. Tang San could clearly feel his spirit power being rapidly consumed. Evidently, putting away these spider legs required the support of spirit power to carry out.

As no less than a third of Tang San’s spirit power was consumed, all the spider legs finally completely merged into his back. Tang San could distinctly feel those eight spider legs had not disappeared within his body, rather than changing into eight bizarre energies, from his spine they fit in closely over eight of his ribs.

“If they can be put away it’s fine.”

Zhao Wuji nodded to Tang San,

“These spider legs are quite good. If they truly are like the Man Faced Demon Spider’s spider legs, then, little San your strength is at once even more powerful. Eight three metres long spider legs that can be controlled at will is completely equivalent to eight pikes. With the poison, if it’s as poisonous as the Man Faced Demon Spider, then it should be neurotoxin in addition to corrosive poison. From even little Ao’s small sausage being unable to remove it, it can clearly be seen just how violent the poison is.”

Tang San all along pondered, the process of obtaining this Man Faced Demon Spider spirit ring was extremely painful, at present having already finished absorbing it, the things he obtained were more than common Spirit Masters absorbing many spirit rings. Let alone the attributes themselves substantially improving, and possessing the ability he most hoped to obtain, and on his back these eight spider legs Tang San also didn’t know whether he should be happy or concerned about. After all, he didn’t know what consequences conditions like these would bring him in the future.

Right now, Tang San even more missed his Teacher, if Grandmaster was here, perhaps these questions could all be answered.

“Well, don’t think about it right now, everything can wait until we return.”

Zhao Wuji wore a smile looking at these children before him, his mood greatly relaxed,

“Although this time we came across not a few inconveniences, and also went through danger a number of times, in the end we dealt with them. Oscar, Tang San and Xiao Wu have smoothly obtained spirit rings and advanced to the Spirit Elder realm. The crop is certainly pretty good. It’s also time to go back. Returning to Shrek Academy, we’re setting off.”

Everyone cheered in chorus. The students had a number of times been in danger of death, now everything was already settled and they were at last returning home. The seven students looked at one another, an intangible deep connection extending between everyone’s hearts. Undergoing this time’s visit to Star Dou Great Forest, whether obtaining spirit rings, or without obtaining them, right



now the only thought was to return to the Academy, comfortably lying down to sleep in their own beds.

If saying that when coming here the seven were still somewhat estranged, then, by now their relationship had undoubtedly pulled much closer. The previously least accepted by everyone Ning Rongrong also used her actions to gain everyone's approval, and in the end between life and death she herself also felt the meaning of the word 'friends'. Before a group even more outstanding than herself, what could she still feel superior about?

Although some time had already passed, because of using Spirit Avatar, Zhao Wuji's strength only had fifty percent of his peak condition, therefore, everyone were still extremely careful while leaving Star Dou Great Forest. Not only were everyone provided with one of Oscar's mushroom sausages and Recovery Sausages, but also still maintained the most defensive formation.

While walking out of Star Dou Great Forest, Xiao Wu recounted the story she previously told everyone to Tang San, also telling him about obtaining her third spirit ring.

"Xiao Wu, what is your third spirit ring ability?"

Tang San curiously asked.

Xiao Wu giggled, saying:

"Secret, I'll tell you after we've returned. Little San, how did you kill that Man Faced Demon Spider? At that time you were alone. Even if it was an injured Man Faced Demon Spider, its attack power should still have been extremely terrifying. Moreover it was still venomous."

Hearing Xiao Wu's question, Tang San suddenly started,

"Oh, that's right, I almost forgot about it. Zhao Wuji, wait a moment before going on."

By now, they were already approaching the edge of Star Dou Great Forest, although they still saw some spirit beasts, for the most part they were ten year and hundred year levels, no cause for concern.

Zhao Wuji halted, looking at Tang San,

“What’s going on?”

Tang San’s right hand swiped at Twenty Four Moonlit Bridges, taking out the Zhuge Godly Crossbow<sup>[1]</sup>. Xiao Wu mentioning killing the Man Faced Demon Spider made him remember, that day his Godly Zhuge Crossbow had after being loaded twice not been discharged. If the mechanism was kept loaded for a long time, it would harm the crossbow’s body. Fortunately, only one day had passed, right now there was still time to release the tension.

When the Godly Zhuge Crossbow was loaded it must be relieved by shooting, this also was one of its drawbacks.

Seeing the Godly Zhuge Crossbow in Tang San’s hand, Xiao Wu suddenly understood,

“You used it to kill the Man Faced Demon Spider. This thing’s power is indeed formidable, the Man Faced Demon Spider’s eyes couldn’t endure it.”

The others naturally heard Xiao Wu’s words. Because they were previously in a tense situation, no one had paid attention to how the Man Faced Demon Spider had died, afterwards Tang San also began absorbing the spirit ring and everyone were only concerned about his safety. Right now hearing Xiao Wu mention it, they recalled what kind of terrifying existence the Man Faced Demon Spider was, looking at the Godly Zhuge Crossbow in Tang San’s hands, it was hard not to show astonished gazes.

Tang San used action to tell everyone how this Godly Zhuge Crossbow was used. After the business in Star Dou Great Forest this time, in his heart he already acknowledged these companions. Mechanism type hidden weapons were also not Tang Sect’s true secrets, he didn’t care about concealing it.

Raising his hand, aiming the Godly Zhuge Crossbow at a big tree to the side, Tang San moved the switch.

Gabeng, Gabeng, a successive mechanical sound resounded, everyone only felt a blur before them, immediately followed by a

successive pupu sound echoing.

How fast that momentary burst was the students couldn't say, even Zhao Wuji's expression changed.

Among everyone, the fastest no doubt was agility attack type Spirit Master Zhu Zhuqing, but even she reached the conclusion that she absolutely would be unable to escape from the kind of firing speed the Godly Zhuge Crossbow had.

Everyones' complexions changed, looking dumbstruck at each other.

As everyone reached the tree, they clearly saw, on that tree that would require three large men to encircle, right now already appeared two rows of altogether sixteen finger sized little holes. Light shone through the holes, and one could see in one end and out the other.

Zhao Wuji couldn't help but ask:

"Tang San, what is this thing? How did you make it?"

Tang San held up the Godly Zhuge Crossbow before its owner,

"I call it a Godly Zhuge Crossbow. It's a kind of extraordinarily potent mechanism type hidden weapon. Anyone could use it. Filled with forty eight crossbow bolts, after each time the mechanism is set it can by the mechanism launch sixteen bolts in a moment. Like just now. With the mechanism set it has to be shot, otherwise after the mechanism is stretched for too long, the crossbow will take damage. Because the strength of the mechanism included in this kind of crossbow is very great, even metal will be unable to easily endure it. This is also the drawback of the Godly Zhuge Crossbow."

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## Notes

1. (诸葛神弩) "Zhuge God Crossbow", Zhuge probably refers to Zhuge Liang, the supposed Three Kingdoms era strategist and supposed inventor of the repeating crossbow.



# Credits

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